FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MAY 1987

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli warplanes raided Palestinian facilities in the Sidon area used for launching attacks against Israel, Jerusalem radio reported 8 May. Security sources contacted by Beirut radio put the preliminary casualty count at 3 dead and 20 wounded.

Clashes in South — Three Palestinians were killed and two captured when they clashed with Israeli soldiers near Tayr Harfa, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported citing AFP. According to IDF radio, four SLA soldiers were wounded when their patrol clashed with a "terrorist squad" in the northern sector of the security strip.

Hostage Question — Hizballah leader Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah announced that there will be no "breakthrough" in the hostage issue, according to an *Al-Shams* report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Fadlallah said that the question has been "suspended" until after the elections in the United States and France.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat on Struggle — Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told Palestinians in Bahrain that arms smuggling into Lebanon will be intensified, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Although 'Arafat reaffirmed that the PLO will not withdraw from Sidon, a "staging point" for operations against Israel, he said that efforts to achieve a political solution will continue.

Delegation Visits PRC — An official delegation headed by Central Committee member Salah Khalaf was honored at a banquet hosted by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, XINHUA reported, adding that the minister praised PLO efforts toward unity and reiterated China's support for an international conference.

Inter-arab Affairs

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn agreed that priority must be given to ending the Iran-Iraq war, according to an exclusive *Al-Qabas* report cited by KUNA. The paper revealed that at a recent secret meeting attended by Jordanian King Husayn and Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, Al-Asad promised he would try to influence Iran to accept a negotiated settlement to the war. The paper also disclosed that, by way of encouragement, the Saudis offered to give Syria 50,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

Iran

The U.S.-Soviet effort to "hatch a conspiracy" against Iran is evidence of the superpowers' "disgrace" as well as their "fear" of the Islamic Republic's "significance and power," Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared in remarks cited by Tehran radio. In reference to Kuwaiti negotiations to lease tankers from the United States and the Soviet Union, the speaker said that seeking protection under the "flag of colonialism" is a "move of humiliation and shame."

On the subject of bilateral relations, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry noted that Iran's "unfriendly campaign," including efforts to "distort" Soviet policy on the war, does not contribute to the "spirit of genuine goodneighbourliness," TASS reported.

Sudan

Mubarak al-Fadil, industry minister and acting information minister, denied that Sudan will take part in the U.S. "Bright Star" maneuvers, SUNA reported. Sudan has no agreements to participate in such joint exercises, the minister declared.

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'Arafat To Step Up Arms Smuggling into Lebanon
NC071529 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Speaking to members of the Palestinian community in Bahrain, PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat has pledged to intensify arms smuggling into Lebanon to defend the Palestinian camps and launch attacks on Israeli positions.

'Arafat added: I buy arms on the black market and then smuggle them into Lebanon, although heavy weapons are difficult to bring in. He pointed out that he has managed to bring SAM-7's into Lebanon, noting that if he finds someone who can sell him SAM-6's, he will certainly smuggle those into Lebanon as well. 'Arafat noted that the shelling of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon has stopped, but that the Amal-imposed siege remains in force. He affirmed that he will not withdraw his troops from Sidon, which is being used as a staging point for operations against Israel. However, he added, efforts to reach a political solution will proceed in conjunction with military activity.

Assesses Aftermath of PNC Talks
PM071035 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
8 May 87 pp 20, 21

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, by Mazin Mustafa in Algiers "immediately after the brief meeting of the new Executive Committee"]

[Excerpt] [Introductory passage omitted] *Al-Hawadith*: Your management of the national dialogue and of the PNC reminded me of the Canaanite legend about the father whose son deserted him after a quarrel. The father left no stone unturned in trying to bring him back. His last resort was a message saying: "You take one step toward me and I will walk the rest of the way to you." Can we say the 18th PNC was Abu 'Ammar's session?

Abu 'Ammar: Look, there is no need to boast, as that is the most serious problem leaders can face. Boasting is the weakest moment for any leadership or leader. May God spare us such things. I proceed from the noble Koranic verse: "When thou throwest a handful of dust, it was not thine act but God's." The Palestinian fighter who is indeed daily singing the song of death and daily engaging in the epic of blood is writing an immortal song for this revolution and this cause. As a result, he has become the odd and basic factor in the Middle East equation. No solution, stability, security, or peace can be found by bypassing the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, including those of self-determination and the establishment of an independent state. From 1982 to 1987 we were engaged in daily battles with the Israeli enemy. The battle has been going on for 4 and 1/2 years. When the big brains of Israeli militarism and the big brains of U.S. militarism — that is General Alexander Haig, former U.S. secretary of state and NATO commander — together drew up the plans, they imagined that the battle [of the 1982 invasion of Lebanon] would last 3 or 4 days or a maximum of 5. But it developed into the longest Arab-Israeli war and, as I have already said, it was the only Israeli war which no Israeli general dared to claim as his own. Why? Because Israel was beaten on points in its longest war and it was followed by one of the most successful Arab-Israeli wars of attrition.

Al-Hawadith: Brother Abu 'Ammar, whether the PNC unification session was held to discuss the international conference or any other political stand, did the Palestinians at this stage need to make a clear and categorical decision on the matter at a time when the countries concerned with the international conference are avoiding such a decision themselves?

Abu 'Ammar: It is because I am the one most concerned with the international conference. You notice that the problem lies between myself and my principal adversary, the Israelis. I have resolved my problem through democratic consensus, but my principal adversary has suffered a leadership crisis which is still continuing. The core and the crux of the Middle East conflict is the Palestine problem. The others are offshoots of this. Therefore, the number one player is the Palestinian and his principal enemy is Israel. This was the reason for the interest shown in these two areas.

Al-Hawadith: What does Abu 'Ammar think of a post-PNC scenario in which there would be a U.S. move to pressure the countries concerned in order to try to isolate the PLO as much as possible and to encourage hostility toward it? A call for an international conference will be made immediately afterward, and the Soviets will protest. This would then be a chance to isolate both the PLO and the Soviets, and a new Camp David will be initiated at the international conference.

Abu 'Ammar: Will such a scenario end the Middle East conflict? Well, look at Al-Sadat, Begin, and Carter when they said this was the last of the wars. But the war is continuing to this day. One more thing: Can anybody hide the sun with his hand? What do you think of those who are so foolish as to try to hide the sun with their fingers?

Al-Hawadith: Therefore, the only way to the solution is what you call the odd factor.

Abu 'Ammar: We are the basic and odd factor in the Middle East equation. This has been proven time and time again despite the ferocity of the battle, the heavy losses, and the large number of martyrs. We are the odd factor in the differential equation (he said this in English) and I am talking as an engineer.

Al-Hawadith: Now what is your next step after the PNC? Where will you head for in your political action?

Abu 'Ammar: To help accomplish your task you must keep things to yourself. It is not necessary that I divulge my plans.

Al-Hawadith: Palestinian-Soviet relations have been in a honeymoon period since your meeting with Gorbachev in Berlin. Will Moscow be one of the capitals, if not the first capital, included in your forthcoming move?

Abu 'Ammar: Let me say that, after my meeting with Comrade Gorbachev, Palestinian-Soviet contacts continued on all levels. You noticed that the socialist bloc and the Soviet Union were strongly represented (in the PNC), as was China. Did you

count the large number of international delegations participating in the conference? There were 147 delegations -- most of them at the ministerial level — from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the Arab countries. This mass meeting is certainly an indication of the importance and status of the Palestinian revolution in the minds of those noble and free friends of ours in the world.

Al-Hawadith: In light of the presence of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Moscow during the PNC session and of the frequent contacts between you and the Soviet ambassador in Algiers, how do you evaluate Gorbachev's statements concerning the international conference, relations with Israel, and the convening of the PNC?

Abu 'Ammar: In fact, Comrade Gorbachev has dotted the i's in relation to the U.S. attempt and the attempts by pro-Americans who tried to cast doubt on the Arab-Soviet relationship because of what happened recently regarding [Jewish] emigration and Soviet-Israeli relations. Gorbachev made this clear, affirming that they [relations with Israel] are closely and conditionally dependent upon an international conference and a comprehensive solution. I would like to say one thing — that following the first meeting after the long estrangement between the Soviets and the Israelis. [sentence left incomplete] This happened in 1984 between Comrade Gromyko, who was then foreign minister, and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. I recall that a few days later I met with Gromyko, who gave me details of the meeting. Other meetings followed, which the Soviets reported, deliberately giving details of what went on so as to thwart any attempts at intrigue and to show the coordination between us and the Soviets on this matter. [as published]

Al-Hawadith: In your response to Syria's call shortly before the PNC was convened to postpone the meeting and to invite the secretaries of all the resistance factions to Damascus, you suggested instead that a meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front be held. Do you believe that preparations to convene it are under way and that it will meet in the near future?

Abu 'Ammar: I do not believe now is the right time to convene the Steadfastness and Confrontation summit. But it is still an idea.

Al-Hawadith: Another question on this: Do you not believe the convening of the PNC in itself was an indication of some form of Arab solidarity, especially since the Palestinians have always been in the front line of regional Arab conflicts, axes, and alliances?

Abu 'Ammar: You are doing us an injustice, man! We are in the front line of the fight against the Israeli enemy. But our presence in that line makes it incumbent upon us, while in this sea of shifting sands, to be present in the lines that constitute our strategic rear, or sometimes in other mobilization areas, or in a third skirmishing area, or in a fourth area of diversionary combat. These things are imposed upon us by the conditions of the battle.

Al-Hawadith: Since we are discussing the question of the Arab situation, you are known to be skilled in exploiting all conditions in the interests of Palestinian and Arab efforts. How will you exploit the new Libyan openness [toward the PLO]?

Abu 'Ammar: Have pity, I am not working alone. I am working with my brothers. But we certainly appreciate the fact that President [as published] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi adopted an honorable and strong stand against the attacks on the camps in what has become known as the camps war. He was effective in recent efforts to bolster national unity. Our PNC has adopted a resolution saluting the colonel for this effort.

Al-Hawadith: But Libya must play a political role that goes beyond mere sympathy with the camps, particularly since the colonel denied Abu 'Ammar was negligent in upholding the Palestinian decision. This is of considerable political importance.

Abu 'Ammar: We certainly appreciated that. We believe that by doing so the colonel has opened a new chapter which will have a beneficial effect on both the Palestinian and Arab levels.

Al-Hawadith: Observers note, Abu 'Ammar, that the Palestinian resolution on relations with Egypt, Jordan, and Syria was moderate...

Abu 'Ammar: Yet unfortunately the Egyptian media attacked us (this was before the Egyptian decision to sever ties with the PLO). We adopted a resolution at the PNC expressing appreciation for Egypt and its great people and for the sacrifices which this people and their heroic army have made for the sake of the Palestinian cause and the Arab cause as well as for the sake of liberating the occupied territories from the Zionists. We appreciate Egypt's pioneering role and believe it must resume this role.

Al-Hawadith: Do you believe work will shortly be resumed within joint political frameworks along the lines of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement but under new conditions?

Abu 'Ammar: First of all, we have a PNC resolution that says there is a distinguished relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians based on an independent confederation. I am committed to implementing this resolution.

Al-Hawadith: What about Egypt? Do you not think this applies to it as well?

Abu 'Ammar: There are many things that link us to the Arabs. The Islamic summit resolution, which was endorsed in Fes, links us to those with whom the Fes resolution does not. And the nonaligned resolution, which is based on the Fes resolutions, links us to those with whom we are not linked by the Fes resolution.

Al-Hawadith: Have we transcended the yes-no situation?

Abu 'Ammar: There is no yes-no situation; it was an expression that I used so as not show my hand. In politics there is nothing known as yes-no. I have used it only to maintain secrecy.

Al-Hawadith: Abu 'Ammar, you usually put the situation in a nutshell, such as when you used the expression "emerging from the tunnel" or the stage of consolidating the odd number, and so on. How would you summarize the new situation following the

unification session?

Abu 'Ammar: I have said that this year is the year of rising hope. I did not say this only after the PNC session. This is the slogan of the accomplishments of the whole year. The convocation of the PNC was one sign of our rising hope; the steadfastness in the camps was another; and the longest uprising ever by our people in the occupied territorries since the start of the occupation was yet another.

Al-Hawadith: What does Abu 'Ammar want from the Arab countries after the PNC?

Abu 'Ammar: I ask from them only what they ask from us — to unite! I would say let us organize our Arab ranks so we can face up to the international challenges, from the Gulf war, through the Lebanese tragedy and the Israeli occupation, to the rest of the Arab nation's problems. I am quite confident one of the motives for the rush to convene the Arab summit was the meeting of the PNC.

Hawatimah Says Al-Qadhdhafi 'Satisfied' With PNC

JN071041 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0948 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 7 May (WAKH) — DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah has said Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told him he was completely satisfied with the results of the 18th PNC session held in Algiers recently. In a statement to *Al-Khalij* published in Al-Shariqah today, Hawatimah explained that the Libyan leader stressed the need to protect the national and pan-Arab program which was brought about by the Algiers session. Hawatimah quoted Al-Qadhdhafi as saying the protection of this program is not merely a Palestinian responsibility but an Arab one, as well. He noted that he also called on all the Arab countries eager to preserve the pan-Arab cause and the Palestinian people's rights to foster and protect this program. Hawatimah explained that Al-Qadhdhafi had expressed willingness to spare no effort with the Syrian officials, especially with President Hafiz al-Asad, to restore and rectify relations between Syria and the PLO. Al-Qadhdhafi also stressed that differences between Syria and the PLO must be resolved as soon as possible. He warned of becoming entangled in secondary issues and disputes or exaggerating them, as that do grave damage to pan-Arab issues.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf To Visit PRC 7-17 May

JN072035 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] It was announced in Beijing yesterday that Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, will pay an official visit to the PRC at the head of a Palestinian delegation from 7-17 May at the invitation of the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A spokesman for the PRC ministry said the Palestinian delegation's trip would include talks with PRC officials on Palestinian developments and the situation in the Middle East.

PDRY

Nu'man Shows 'Wide Gap' Between Resources, Needs

EA060923 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1648 GMT 3 May 87

[Speech by Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, PDRY Political Bureau member and chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers, at joint consultative meeting with secretaries of basic party organizations in Aden Governorate; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear Comrades: I am glad to (?be) with you at the end of this meeting, which was arranged by the capital's party organization. Its purpose is to discuss the role of basic organizations and the party's grassroots groups in economic development. This meeting is also an opportunity for me to launch party and mass discussion on the draft of the Third 5-Year Plan, which we have finished compiling. The core of my speech will be on the main directions of the Third 5-Year Plan, as approved by the seventh session of the Central Committee and earlier meetings of the Political Bureau. The draft was also approved by the Council of Ministers at recent meetings. [passage omitted]

We shall try, as much as possible, to concentrate on the basic indications of the plan, because it forms the party's second political program. As its objectives are linked to the defense of the national democratic regime in Democratic Yemen, this plan is pivotal to the party's struggle in the next stage.

The first priority of the seventh session was to embark on all production-related tasks and to consolidate the social classes, as these forces constitute the social foundation for the national democratic regime. We tried to incorporate these elements in the Third 5-Year Plan. The question is: How was that achieved on the basis of the plan? In fact, this course was presented by the fifth session of the Central Committee when it discussed the subject of authority and strengthening its democratic and class nature in the interests of the workers, the peasants and their allies, the toilers.

During the seventh session, this course was interpreted as signifying the strengthening of economic productivity as well as constituting the objectives embraced by the Third 5-Year Plan.

We now refer to the objective coincidence of turning the aim into reality. Here we may also stress the relevant link between the general political aim and its integration into economic life. [passage omitted]

The objective, as I have said, is a great one, but we had two options: Either we proceed by laying down general objectives and then thinking over the economic resources that can achieve those general objectives — this is also an acceptable course — or we proceed by defining the available resources and capabilities and thereby determine the quantitative general objectives.

Assuming that we have these resources at hand, we can quantitatively define the general objectives, or, assuming that we have the resources to achieve development in industry, material production in various fields, social services, basic infrastructure such as the economy, roads, and so on, we can then define the objectives within the framework of what is available. In fact, this was the practical course we adopted in quantitatively defining the objectives of the Third 5-Year Plan.

Of course, you know the nature of the financial and economic situation that affected the country following 13 January: hard financial conditions and an economic situation resulting from the economic policies applied prior to 13 January, the effects of which are now beginning to make themselves felt, apart from the heavy burdens imposed upon the economy by the conspiracy. All this imposed severe constraints and limits on the objectives we wished to lay down for the next 5 years. Probably the main problem facing us in the process of solving some of the current problems arising out of 13 January — and we have to solve these problems within the framework of a more comprehensive view of the future social and economic in general. [sentence as heard] We cannot solve the social problems arising out of 13 January in isolation from a comprehensive view of social and economic development over the next 5 years.

There were certain factors determining our objectives which were beyond our control. We lacked both financial resources and basic factors essential for defining some of the objectives. We used to rely on loans to achieve some of the development goals. We were relying on inconsistent foreign exchange transfers from abroad, which did not permit us to follow consistent objectives for economic development. In addition to all this, we have been facing difficulties following 13 January.

The foreign exchange transfers decreased from 130 million dinars to only 90,000 dinars. This means that we must apply available resources either to import commodities for public consumption or divert part of them to development. That means importing foodstuffs and other consumer goods for the public or applying part of the funds to economic development. It will take at least 4 or 5 years for these investments to produce results in agriculture, fisheries, and industry and to produce goods essential to life.

The situation was difficult and complicated. In spite of that, however, we tried for two simultaneous goals. The first is to continue providing the people with the necessary living requirements, while decreasing the import program from about 280 million dinars in 1985 to around 200 million dinars in 1986. Of course this savings went to development. The amounts used in the local market for essential commodities for the people did not exceed 114 million dinars, whereas in 1985 the amount was about 190 million dinars. We must realize the significance of this under the very complicated political and social circumstances.

They are bound to lead to social tension resulting in many social and political problems. We can say that in 1986, despite all the difficulties which accompanied financial and economic circumstances, the political mobilization among the toilers — the role played by the party and the basic and mass organizations — clarified aspects of the economic crisis. It explained and crystallized how the opportunist rightist clique dealt with the economic issue by creating a direct link between the (?custodians) of the opportunist right and the citizens in the market. [passage omitted]

When we compare the present basic requirements of the people and the available resources, we shall undoubtedly find a wide gap. We have tried to bridge this in the Third 5-Year Plan.

We have, for instance, attempted to stabilize consumption within the framework of the party directives. We said that within the framework of the Third 5-Year Plan, while we are implementing the Central Committee and the Political Bureau directives in matters relating to the reformulation of this relationship with a new content, we should take into consideration that we have vast potentials in the economy that would benefit from unemployed productive energies. There are unemployed productive energies in agriculture, industry, fisheries, and in many areas of economic life. [passage omitted]

We have studied in some detail the reality of these sectors in order to determine the available potential and so that we do not remain idealistic by saying we do not have the potential to increase production in the agricultural, industrial, and fishery sectors and give indices and goals that are sometimes unrealistic.

We first started to study the ownership relationships in these sectors, ownership relationships in agriculture and in the cooperative sector. I must say that actually there is a distorted relationship. In almost all the agricultural productive and fishery cooperatives there are completely distorted production relations.

First of all, these cooperatives no longer constitute or give preference even to their own producers, the cooperative members. Every cooperative producer, because of the problems and obstacles experienced by the cooperatives, prefers to become an individualistic producer. [Words indistinct] made available by cooperative work for individualistic producers. Because of the nature of the problems that have accumulated inside the cooperatives people strive to be transformed into individualistic producers.

For instance, in some governorates all the agricultural cooperatives are experiencing deficits. The Political Bureau, when considering the political situation, referred to some governorates in which all the cooperatives are experiencing not just financial deficits. There are some cooperatives which have 1,000 feddan [unit of land measurement equal to 1.038 acres] of arable land but which cultivate only 200 feddans. In come cooperatives, the number of members reached about [word indistinct] but then the number fell to 200 or 150 members.

There are some cooperatives which own — contrary to agrarian reform laws — 50 or 60 feddans. When the productive unit drops to five or six members, some go to buy taxis, others emigrate, and some leave the cooperative. Then one or two persons are left and they cannot cultivate all of such an area. So, part of the national wealth remains unutilized, apart from the fact that cooperative work is incomplete in terms of its political and class aspects. Moreover, the social wealth of the country is underutilized. Many difficulties have accumulated within the cooperatives. All this requires us to analyze how the opportunist right managed to create a relationship between the head of the regime and the people by using the market.

Do we need to make new investments in the next few years? Investment under the Third 5-Year-Plan is about 583 million dinars, compared to about 680 million dinars under the Second 5-Year Plan. The 583 million dinars is equal to $1.5 billion. This is a huge sum, which is difficult to find in our own resources, although we have tried as much as possible to depend on funds generated by the national economy. The state sector will, of course, bear the main burden of financing the development plans. Foreign loans will account for about 50 percent of these investments. Most of the loans, about 60 percent, will come, of course, from the USSR. [passage omitted]

The contribution of the state sector to the economy ranges from 50 percent in 1985 to 56 percent in 1990. This is obvious, since most investment takes place inside the state sector. [passage omitted]

The contribution of the cooperative sector to the whole plan should be about 9.8 percent. However, this could be increased during the Third 5-Year Plan by reorganizing cooperative work in the immediate future, and improving the state of affairs in the cooperatives. [passage omitted]

As for the private sector, its contribution is expected to diminish from 39 percent in 1985 to 27 percent in 1990. This assumes that the contribution of the private sector is concentrated mainly on agriculture, individual allotments provided by the agricultural improvement cooperative scheme, the individual sector in fisheries, and other areas specified in the resolution of the seventh session of the Central Committee. It is also assumed that those involved in this sector must cease expanding in the following areas: transport and communications, foreign trade, and all activities that do not further public production. [passage omitted]

The private sector should, therefore, be limited to production in agriculture and fisheries, providing for public wealth, but not exploitation. [passage omitted] The plan has attempted to make an economic reality of the directives of the seventh session of the Central Committee. [passage omitted]

Before I conclude my speech, I would like to refer to two issues: First, there is a lot of talk about the discovery of oil. Oil will definitely add to the resources available for achieving our political and social objectives, but I want to say that oil is not everything.

We should regard oil either as an independent resource that we can sell and receive money for in return, or we should regard it simply as a resource to finance economic and social development, to finance our objective of obtaining food and achieving the material production base for our subsequent development, which should, in fact, constitute the firm ground, the objective foundation to move society to the next stage.

The announcement of the discovery of oil created some kind of euphoria; there was rejoicing. Three days after the announcement and after the exchange of visits, people began to wonder where the results of the oil were. People began to talk. Soon after we announced the discovery of oil people began to talk about immediate results. Some started talking about salary increases. Some wanted to receive a months extra salary, others

wanted 150 percent increases. I would like to say that we should realize that oil has its problems. Until the real results of oil are attained, there has to be political (?discipline) among the people. When we deal with oil we must deal with it with [word indistinct] political vision. [passage omitted] So, until oil starts making a fortune or providing a source of development, we must concern ourselves with basic sectors of production, like agriculture. [passage omitted]

The second point is that [passage indistinct] with the socialist countries in the framework of the Third 5-Year Plan. We do not want to set ourselves a goal if this goal has anything to do with political slogans. We should consider the content of the goal and how we can achieve it by bearing in mind that it is one of the guarantees for the success and continuity of this regime. We do not want to say that there will be 40 or 50 percent otherwise we would have to alter tomorrow all our trade relations with the socialist countries. We can have, as we have incorporated in the Second 5-Year Plan, a slogan of about 45 percent, but the plan achieved much less than 20 percent. [passage omitted]

SAUDI ARABIA

Daily Hopes U.S. Policy Based on 'Logic'

LD080920 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0335 GMT 8 May 87

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] Riyadh, 8 May (SPA) — The Saudi newspaper *Al-Riyad* comments on U.S. policy in the Middle East. It writes: There are some who admit that U.S. policy in the Arab area has been lacking.They say that those who in the past trusted the United States and believed that it held 99 percent of the solution, have failed to elicit even a minimal degree of understanding from the United States. They have even failed to get the United States to accept the facts of the situation without having them make Israel the pivot and base for any political activity.

The paper points out that the Arab League's seven-man committee will meet with President Reagan today and that the Iraq-Iran war will be the central topic of discussion.

We realize, the paper adds, that the U.S. side is still principal and important in international events. But the White House persists in a one-sided interpretation of new developments in the region.

The paper adds that the Iraq-Iran war is approaching the end of its 7th year. In terms of human and material losses, the war has been a great tragedy for both sides, and it has continued amid an atmosphere of international indifference. The delegation will want to hear what the United States thinks and plans to do with regard to this war. We believe this could be a positive meeting provided the United States acts in the interests of all sides without bias toward any one side. More importantly, though is that U.S. policy should be realistic. The paper points out that logic is the sole factor governing these objectives since the United States realizes what is at risk. In the future, it will have a dire need for the oil of the region. Also, it does not want a crisis of confidence with the Arabs in all channels and directions.

The paper asks: "How can U.S. policy follow a sound evaluation, particularly as Murphy will be hosted in the region in the next few days? What else will he be able to tell those of us in the region other than the repeated statements and promises which result in nothing? Or will there be a new realization and a change in logic and attitude aimed at safeguarding U.S. interests in the first place?"

UAE

2 PLO Executive Committee Members Arrive

JN071310 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 May (QNA) — Mahmud 'Abbas, PLO Executive Committee member and the official in charge of occupied territories affairs, and Jawad al-Ghusayn, PLO Executive Committee member and chairman of the Palestinian National Fund, arrived in Abu Dhabi from Tunis and Amman today to join PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived in Abu Dhabi from Manama last night on a visit to the UAE of several days.

This evening Yasir 'Arafat and his accompanying delegation will meet with His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, to review the latest developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas after the meetings of the 18th PNC session recently held in Algiers.

'Arafat will meet with the Palestinian community in Abu Dhabi tomorrow evening to talk about recent developments in the Palestinian arena and the unity of the Palestinian factions achieved in the PNC meetings.

'Arafat, Shaykh Zayid Confer

JN071924 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1812 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] conferred in AbuDhabi today with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar apprised Shaykh Zayid of the outcome of the PNC session which convened on 20 April in Algiers. The two sides discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar arrived in Abu Dhabi yesterday from Manama on an official visit to the UAE lasting several days.

International Conference Called 'Doubtful'

NC071720 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Amal Yusuf commentary entitled: "The Current Possibilities for Holding an International Conference in Light of the Stances Taken by the Israeli Government and the Arabs"]

[Text] Reports that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres have agreed to postpone the Inner Cabinet's discussion of Peres' proposals for an international conference on peace in the Middle East until next Monday [11 May]— these discussions were due to be held yesterday, Wednesday — raise more than one question.

The first concerns whether the differences between Shamir and Peres, or between the Likud and Labor Parties, on holding a peace conference are merely a maneuver to achieve Israeli aims; namely, that Israel should a priori guarantee the imposition of all its conditions for solving the Palestinian problem.

These reports have noted that Shamir and Peres' excuse for delaying the discussions is the absence of two Inner Cabinet ministers abroad. However, Yitzhaq Shamir's statements reveal there is no real inclination by the Likud or the Labor Parties to dissolve their coalition over the [possible] international conference or because of any other problems. Informed Israeli sources have said the postponement's true aim is to give the two parties an opportunity to reach an understanding to avoid the Israeli Government's collapse. Israeli radio has reported that Shamir is seeking clarifications from Washington on the plan that Peres will submit to obtain guarantees sparing Israel from pressures that other parties to the conference might subject it to. If what Israeli radio reported is true, this then shows Shamir's willingness to end his opposition to a conference after in the past few weeks having underscored his and the Likud bloc's resistance to such a conference,even if this leads to the collapse of Israel's ruling coalition.

The second question is whether this lackadaisical attitude in arriving at a final Israeli stand toward the conference is the result of developments between the Jordanian-Palestinian side and Arabs in general, and specifically the resolutions adopted at the PNC session in Algiers. The PNC has abrogated the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in the absence of any alternative for Palestinian representation in any future international peace conference. These resolutions have practically frozen Arab efforts to hold a conference, at least for the time being.

In any event, we draw attention to a known ploy of Israeli policy; namely, of going along with developments and adopting stances that Israel can retract without embarrassment.

It seems that opportunities for holding an international Middle Eastern peace conference have receded to a large extent, and it has become doubtful whether one will be held at all.

Abu Basha 'Critical'; Jihad Members Arrested

NC072129 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 May (MENA) — A medical board comprising bone surgery professors from Egyptian medical schools will meet today to discuss the physical condition of Major General Hasan Abu Basha, former interior minister and minister of local government, and decide on the possibility of sending him abroad for treatment.

In its Friday edition, the *Al-Ahram* newspaper cites Dr Husam Badrawi, a physician at the hospital where the former minister is being treated, as saying that Maj Gen Abu Basha is in critical condition and is very tired. The paper notes that a group of doctors will decide whether and where he should travel abroad fortreatment.

Meanwhile, intelligence organizations are continuing their investigation into the identity of the culprits. A responsible security source has revealed that intelligence personnel found clues that might help identify the assailants after criminal laboratory experts managed to lift fingerprints from one of two soft drink bottles one of the assailants was said to have drunk from in a kiosk near Abu Basha's home. A number of suspects also have been arrested, including members of the Jihad Organization in Cairo, Al-Jizah, Alexandria, and several other governorates. Their fingerprints have been taken to check against those on the soft drink bottle. A number of eyewitnesses have affirmed their ability to identify the perpetrators even if they [accused assailants] were to shave their beards. [passage omitted]

Brotherhood Denounces Attack

NC071507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 May (MENA) — Counsellor Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, People's Assembly member for the Labor Party and a Muslim Brotherhood leader, today announced that the Muslim Brotherhood issued a statement on the recent attack against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha.

The statement denounces violence as a way for sons of the same homeland to deal with one another, whether they be the rulers or the governed. Bloodshed only leads to more bloodshed and violence breeds more violence, the statement affirms.

Ma'mun al-Hudaybi noted that the statement emphasizes that dialogue, conducted wisely and as a good example, is the way of Islam, which is clearly stated by the Koran. The statement, he added, calls on officials, writers, and all citizens, both the rulers and the governed, to exercise self-restraint, to wait for the results of investigations into this matter, and to refrain from placing the blame for all that is taking place on Islamic groups. There might very well be a bearded man involved who has nothing to do with Islam, a man who is only seeking to incite sedition.

AL-WAFD: Government To Blame for Rift With PLO

PM070927 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 30 Apr 87 p 12

[Unattributed "special" dispatch from Algiers: "Who Is Responsible for Deterioration in Relations Between Egypt and the PLO?"]

[Excerpts] The fundamental issue that preoccupied the Palestinians' minds during the 18th PNC session was the Middle Eastern international peace conference. The Palestinians wished to possess the right to talk about an international conference and to play a true role in it, so their task was to unite their ranks. Therefore, the question of inter-Palestinian relations was given the highest priority.

The PNC did not convene in Algiers in order to sever relations with Egypt or to adopt a new position changing the existing stand toward Egypt.

From the start PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat clearly stated that the question of Egypt would not be discussed. It was clear that 'Arafat was ready to sacrifice the Amman accord, which was governing relations with Jordan, but he was not prepared under any circumstances to sacrifice his relations with Egypt.

During the comprehensive national dialogue that took place prior to the PNC session's opening, everyone realized that 'Arafat was totally committed to his relationship with Egypt and that this relationship was not open to bargaining. 'Arafat did in fact stress this point many times during his meetings with Egyptian party delegations, politicians, and journalists.

'Arafat rejected blandishments from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who held a meeting with former PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum (whom Al-Asad still considers the legitimate PNC speaker). Following the meeting, Al-Fahum contacted Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, a DFLP leader, and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], a Fatah leader, from Damascus in an attempt to speak with Yasir 'Arafat over the telephone.

Al-Fahum told 'Arafat: I have been asked by President al-Asad to pass a message on to you: Al-Asad is ready to receive any Palestinian delegation from all organizations without exception to discuss all matters. The meaning of the message was clear: Al-Asad was ready to forgive 'Arafat and reopen the doors of Damascus to him.

'Arafat told Al-Fahum: I also have a message for President al-Asad: I long to see him, and therefore invite him to attend the PNC meetings and then hold a meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, if not now in Algiers, then later somewhere else.

Al-Fahum replied: I hope there will be commitment to the Tripoli document.

The Tripoli document, which was signed by six Palestinian organizations in Tripoli on 15 March 1986, stipulates that relations with Egypt be severed.

This means that the price of opening the doors of Damascus to 'Arafat is his agreement to sever relations with Egypt.

But 'Arafat refused to do this.

The situation at the beginning of the PNC meetings was very clear: For the first time, Syria was completely isolated in the Arab world.

Even Libya, its only ally, began to pursue an individual policy different from that of Damascus.

Syria's rulers are now the only ones who insist on armed action against the Palestinians even inside their [refugee] camps and the only ones who insist on encouraging Iranian attacks on Iraqi territory.

The Syrian Government has failed in its intensive efforts to create an alternative leadership to the PLO. This ended with George Habash (leader of the PFLP, which was pro-Syrian until recently) himself announcing the collapse and dissolution of the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF], which formerly includedPalestinian organizations loyal to Syria.

For all these reasons President Husni Mubarak was right when he stressed Thursday, 23 April that the PLO will not change its attitude toward relations with Egypt.

The extremists and inflexible elements among the Palestinians did not have the courage to raise the question of relations with Egypt the way they did before the PNC was convened.

Those inflexible elements went to Algiers seeking a resolution that would end any kind of relations with Egypt, but the Fatah leadership refused in principle to discuss this question. During the closed sessions of dialogue with the other organizations' secretaries general, 'Arafat delivered a detailed political explanation of the reasons prompting the establishment of relations with Egypt, foremost among which were Palestinian interests. Leaders of other organizations could not reply to 'Arafat, especially when he told them: Would you allow Egyptian representatives to arbitrate over this question? Ask them to write down a formula for relations with Egypt, and I will accept it in advance.

The inflexible elements' method in dealing with the question of relations with Egypt changed from a call to sever relations to a call to "regulate relations." A nonparty Egyptian figure told Dr George Habash: Any Palestinian stand taken against Egypt will force us to stand against you. Habash was shocked by what he heard and asked the Egyptian figure to propose a suitable formula. The Palestinian organizations that came from Damascus were not in a strong position; they were organizations returning to 'Arafat's fold after the defeat of their policies over 4 years of disunity, bitter divisions, and the worst experience at the hands of Damascus' rulers, who opposed independent Palestinian decisionmaking and even the Palestinian right to exist. But 'Arafat emerged as the Palestinian leader most capable of seeing matters in the right way. [passage omitted]

The Egyptian delegation headed by Ambassador Taha al-Farnawani daily followed the drafting of the recommendation

relating to relations with Egypt and met with the Political Committee members, making detailed remarks. The official Egyptian delegation's view was that the formula was acceptable in general but preferred that the reference to the 16th PNC session be omitted. The official Egyptian delegation requested that the reference to the Baghdad summit conference, which was included in the draft resolutions mentioning previous Arab summits, be dropped. This reference was actually omitted, and there was no obstacle to prevent its omission. 'Arafat was certainly capable of omitting this reference, especially as the most inflexible elements showed special appreciation and friendliness toward Egypt regarding political relations with the Egyptian Government, and agreed to omit the statement on the Baghdad summit in the draft recommendations.

At the same time 'Arafat agreed with other Palestinian leaders to leave enough scope for the Executive Committee to work and freely make decisions once he assigned this committee the task of monitoring affairs with Egypt.

There was another alternative for 'Arafat, which was not to present the issue of relations with Egypt to the PNC but to consider it just a document. In all cases, 'Arafat was capable of handling any problem that would disturb his relationship with Cairo. He could have satisfied Egypt and the Egyptians.

The Palestinians themselves said that it was unreasonable to seek to anger Egypt, which backs the [Palestinian] right to self-determination and considers the PLO the sole legitimate representative [of the Palestinian people].

But something happened last Saturday morning [25 April] that destroyed everything.

The official Egyptian delegation withdrew from the PNC meetings, while at the same time news was received from Cairo about "Mubarak's warning to the PNC." *Akhbar Al-Yawm* also released an article launching a large-scale, strong campaign hostile to the Palestinians. Therefore, the situation has become very complicated.

The [Egyptian delegation's] withdrawal was unjustifiable since the PNC had not by that time issued its final political statement. Therefore this withdrawal ended the cycle of dialogue and consultations that had been continuing without obstacle. Cairo was in constant contact with Ambassador al-Farnawani, that is, it was a party taking part in the dialogue with the PNC in a positive, constructive spirit. So why did the official delegation withdraw? And what happened to make it withdraw?

'Arafat is now in a very critical position: He was the number one fighter defending Palestinian interests, which lie within the strengthening of relations with Egypt, but the official Egyptian delegation abandoned him in the final hours of the session, giving other Palestinian factions a golden opportunity to adopt an offensive position to paralyze 'Arafat's movement on the pretext of preventing him from submitting to open Egyptian pressure.

The official Egyptian delegation's withdrawal came in response to a decision from Cairo, so it was futile to attempt to omit a sentence or a word from the draft resolutions referred to earlier.

But the truth remains the same; that is, the 18th PNC session was characterized by moderation. It was a session in which Egypt received every appreciation, respect, and recognition of its crucial role in this region of the world.

The Egyptian Government alone is responsible for the deterioration in relations between Cairo and the PLO.

But 'Arafat is responsible for two specific errors:

He allowed his men to sign the Tripoli document 15 March, which resulted in his men's indulgence in releasing reckless and contradictory statements.

Also, from the beginning there was no need to raise the question of relations with Egypt, regardless of the inflexible elements's insistence. It could have been enough for 'Arafat to state to the effect that "the Palestinian revolution establishes relations with other states in the light of these states' stands toward the Palestinian people's national rights."

But entering into endless details and tiring arguments about a word here or there would be an enormous waste of time and effort, not to mention the fact that just raising the question for open discussion would enable ignorant elements to cause unwise explosive problems.

Never at any previous Palestinian meeting has Egypt itself interfered openly and exerted pressure in the form of caution and warnings. There were also other methods to confront any potential errors on the part of the Palestinians.

Perhaps the Palestinians' mistake was also that they were rather optimistic about the possibility of holding an international conference, despite the current disturbance in the balance of power.

However, the great achievement the Egyptian Government should have welcomed was the one it has always called for: — unity among the Palestinian ranks. When this unity was achieved, the Egyptian Government severed its relations with the Palestinians.

AL-SHA'B Comments on Mubarak Assembly Speech

PM041101 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Apr 87 pp 1, 2

[Chief Editor 'Adil Husayn article: "On Mubarak's Speech and the Official Newspapers' Comments"]

[Excerpts] What is remarkable about President Mubarak's recent speech to the People's Assembly is his insistence on the "stability" slogan. I believe it is the people's right to understand what is meant by this talk about stability, especially since the NDP itself raised the same slogan during the elections, so it appears to be the slogan of President Mubarak's second term of office as well.

What is meant by stability? What is meant, I believe, is that members of our society should be like the limbs of a healthy body, working together harmoniously and integrally. Attaining this state of normality and stability could — as with individuals —

simply require the performance of callisthenic exercises, but in other cases it could necessitate surgery.

What is the meaning of the talk about stability in our society in particular, and how can we attain it? Does stability for us mean preserving everything as it is and keeping it in its place? Impossible. This is against God's law for his creatures (both in Egypt and elsewhere). Does it mean that movement is desirable, but only according to what the government and its party decide? There is something like a railroad track extending toward a specific goal along which the locomotive of the Islamic Alliance (or others) must travel toward a predetermined destination. If that is the purpose, then this is a tyranny that we reject. Who can restrict our movement and set our goals for us in this manner? Will such tyranny lead to natural and profound stability?

But could it be that the talk about "permissible change" means only change in minor details while the fundamentals and objectives remain unchanged? The real election results (regardless of the declared rigged results) reflect a strong desire to effect a comprehensive change. Specifically, the people want a total return to the Islamic way of life: "The baptism of God and who can baptize better than God?" [Koranic verse] Genuine stability requires that people be reassured that they live in a healthy environment that satisfies them and which they accept as a basis for progress and development. This means carrying out a massive sweeping and cleansing operation and combating the bugs and rabid dogs that infest the house. A comprehensive review of conditions must be carried out.

Briefly, the fundamentals and general lines that have guided the rule of President Mubarak's first term cannot continue during the second term. Our people refuse to accept that change should be confined to minor details, as in past years. President Mubarak has made undeniable partial improvements in government administration, primarily [because of] his desire to preserve his financial reputation and that of his family and of all those around him. But the fundamentals on which Al-Sadat based his regime have remained untouched, and the result has been a further deterioration in the general situation. It is sufficient to point out in this regard the disaster of debts, which have doubled and created an increasing burden during President Mubarak's rule due to his perpetuation of his predecessor's general policies.

Does President Mubarak wish to run for a second term in office without changing the current policies and principles? Does anybody in the NDP believe that stability can be achieved without surgery?

We would like to pause at the question of the debt disaster, which the president discussed in his speech. We unfortunately disagree with his remark that "he wishes that irresponsible talk about debts would stop." He also said that "there is evidence, official documents, and figures that show that loans have not been squandered nor spent on purposes other than those stipulated in international agreements."

We disagree with this in that we insist on keeping the question of debts on the agenda. We hope for and insist on a serious study of it to appraise the situation we have reached. We also hope that the new People's Assembly will give this matter all due care so that we can stop the hemorrhage and in the next stage regain our economic independence. [passage omitted]

What we would like to be reassured about and to be the subject of study is whether economic and social policies have sought to maximize use of local resources before beginning to borrow. Or was it thought easier to resort to foreign borrowing (despite the abundance of national savings in both local and foreign currencies) and so drown in this enormous sea of debts?

When we extended our hand to borrow, did we consider whether our foreign currency resources would be able to meet our obligations under these debts and on time? How can we repay the debt installments and interest payments when we do not build projects capable of producing exports for hard currency which then could be used to service the debts? From this standpoint, increased borrowing for the purpose of importing consumer commodities (such as wheat) has caused us to incur debts that are extremely difficult to repay, regardless of what is said about the low interest on them. So where can we find the resources to pay the cost of what we have eaten and now consumed? The same can be said about borrowing for projects that do not produce exportable goods (infrastructure projects such as power stations, telephones, sewers, and so on). [passage omitted]

I believe that a serious and scientific study will show that the amount of the debts incurred far exceeds the real benefit we have received. In other words, we have been subjected to a "fraud." Very often this fraud was not the result of ignorance on the part of those responsible for making decisions and carrying them out, but because of the commission which some received. The door was thus deliberately opened for thieves and invaders. Have we plugged the loopholes and leaks in our system that facilitated plunder? What is the estimated total of plundered funds? Knowing the approximate amount would be very useful in our negotiations with the defrauding debtors. I would say that not a single economic study of this subject has been carried out that could answer these questions. So how can we stop talking about this issue?

Returning to the president's speech, we find that he did not deal with any Arab issues, but we were surprised by what the government newspaper wrote in the past few days on the occasion of the PNC meetings. I can see nothing that happened there to justify this campaign against it. According to information at our disposal, the general attitude toward Egyptian policy [at the PNC meetings] was more moderate than at previous Arab conferences. The Egyptian official delegation found no reasons to withdraw, but had to withdraw according to orders from Cairo. Whatever the reason for this tactical and temporary move may be, it is unacceptable and inconceivable for the official newspapers to write what they are writing for the public, which is extremely harmful to public awareness and the higher national interests. I will not repeat here what they said, but I will take this opportunity to state certain facts:

1. There are some corrupt and affluent Palestinians, and there are even traitors; this is true in every nation. But this does not justify besmirching all the Palestinians. A crime committed by a Palestinian, a Yemeni, a Sudanese, or a Moroccan (be he big or small) does not justify demanding an end to the eternal and

historical relations with all the people of his country. By God, it is a shame that we need to explain the obvious time and time again.

2. Regarding the Palestinians in particular, it is time for us to stop repeating Zionist propaganda that claims the Jews bought the land of Palestine, that the Palestinians have become dispersed because they accepted money, and that the state of Israel came into being as a result of all this. Maybe some 20 or even 100 people did so [sell their land], but, on the other hand, did not (during the past 70 years) thousands and thousands of Palestinians die a martyr's death in defending their homeland? Anybody with eyes can see the splendid steadfastness in the occupied territories since 1967, where resistance has never stopped.

3. I realize that many of my Egyptian brothers have complaints against Palestinians who worked with them in the neighboring oil countries, but we should not allow our enemies to use this story to generate hatred and deepen the rift among the sons of the one Arab Islamic nation. Rather, out of fairness we should in conscience empathize with the Palestinian people's tragedy so that we understand their psychological condition. We must excuse them if we find them fanatical about self-preservation and preserving their interests, for the Palestinians were expelled from their country by force of arms and because of international conspiracies. They have been dispersed among all the Arab countries and no Palestinean can find an embassy to protect his interests. They even seem to be the target of deliberate harassment to force them to emigrate to Canada, Australia, and other places. The stabs the Palestinians have received in the back are too numerous to be counted. It is sufficient to point out what they are now suffering at the hands of the Syrian forces in Lebanon.

4. If what some government writers say — that we have fought for 30 years for the sake of Palestine — is true, this is a religious duty that we should not regret. We are ordered to engage in jihad for the sake of protecting the land of Islam and Arabism, and Palestine (of which Jerusalem is the heart) is of prime importance if you are a believer. Our creed never says that Egypt is self-sufficient and has nothing to do with its coreligionists around it. [passage omitted]

Is not the claim that Egypt has fought several times for the sake of Palestine and the Palestinians a shameful claim which we would like to acquit ourselves of making? Historical facts have proved that Egyptian strategic thinking was right in its fears. In fact danger has never ceased since Israel was established on our eastern border. Egypt did not fight the 1956 war for the sake of the Palestinians; rather, we fought it in response to an aggression that led to the occupation of the Sinai. This aggression's cause was an internal Egyptian problem (the nationalization of the canal), and the 1967 war also was not fought for the sake of Palestine or the Palestinians. It was an Israeli aggression that reoccupied the Sinai after preparations and training lasting [more than] 10 years. As for the war of attrition and the October 1973 war, they were fought, needless to say, for the sake of Egyptian sovereignty and to liberate Egyptian territory. Is this not true? So why should we spread lies and ignorance?

In the light of all this, an end must be firmly put to propaganda that insults the Arabs and the Palestinians every time a political dispute breaks out between [their] leaders. The Arabs and Muslims are our brothers and our backers despite transient differences. We must preserve amity and kinship between the peoples in the face of any possible future shocks. When the Israelis realize that their real strength lies in the Jews outside Israel, is it not terrible that some of us do not see that the real depth of the Egyptian people lies first and foremost in their Arab and Muslim brothers? Can anybody imagine that the American Jews, for example, are in constant agreement with the Israelis? Of course not, but there are those among them who persistently and untiringly try to resolve contradictions and bring about agreement, unlike some of the Arabs.

What the official newspapers have published is serious; it takes us back to the memories and nightmares of Camp David days, which saw the peak of U.S. iniquity and domination of our capabilities and media. This situation requires that all Islamicists object; it calls on all nationalists with a sense of strategy to rise. No problem (economic or otherwise) can be solved until we know who our enemy is.

O people! If there are external reasons for our difficulties and our crisis, you ought to point to the Israelis and their international allies. If Israel has a stockpile of nuclear bombs, then its aim is to threaten Egypt before threatening the Palestinians or any other Arab or Islamic state.

Our need to remember this could not be greater since we are celebrating the day of Sinai.

Wake up, and may God have mercy upon you.

AL-SH'AB Hits General Motors Defense Contract

PM061053 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 28 Apr 87 pp 1,2

[Report by Mustafa al-Safani: "Latest Surprise: General Motors Seeks to Sign a Contract With Ministry of Defense"]

[Text] In the light of developments during current Egyptian-U.S. talks, a contract (a huge plot against Egyptian industry) is to be signed within the next 3 days between the U.S. General Motors [GM]corporation and the Ministry of Defense.

The contract gives the U.S. company the right to be sole manufacturer of three types of military vehicles as well as numerous types of military equipment, particularly spare parts for certain U.S. weapons the Egyptian Army obtains from the United States. It has definitely been decided to allow GM to manufacture 65 percent of the motors used in Egyptian tanks. These will be manufactured in Egypt jointly with other U.S. companies, namely General Electric and Westinghouse.

U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Frank Wisner has presented a proposal to a senior [Egyptian] government official seeking compensation for GM for what he called damages suffered by the corporation after the Ministry of Industry violated its contract with GM, specifically the company's monopoly on manufacturing passenger vehicles in Egypt.

But informed sources have told *Al-Sha'b* that, due to the increase in the dollar's value in Egypt and in the price jump of small Opel cars to approximately 30,000 pounds, GM withdrew [from the market] and concentrated [approached] its contacts through the U.S. Embassy to enter into investment projects with the Defense Ministry — a move welcomed by a senior official who previously discussed it during one of his visits to Washington.

Furthermore, Sayyid Hanafi, deputy chairman of Al-Nasr Motors' union committee, confirmed to *Al-Sha'b* that the contract concluded with GM on manufacturing passenger vehicles has been invalidated, especially after President Husni Mubarak stressed to the minister of industry that the Polonaise automobile is the No 1 car in Egypt as long as its engine is solely locally manufactured.

The union committee's deputy chairman added that keeping GM away from Al-Nasr Motors is considered a victory for the work force and marks the true salvation of Egypt's motor industry from GM's clutches, which wants to seize this strategic industry.

It is worth mentioning that *Al-Sha'b* has previously expressed its fears of GM's relationship with the Zionist entity and the linking of its projects in Egypt with factories being established in Israel. For the above reasons, it would be a serious matter if GM secured a contract with the Defense Ministry.

Sidqi, Delegation Return From Jordanian Talks
NC072116 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and his accompanying delegation returned to Cairo from Amman tonight at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Jordan. [passage omitted]

Communique No 2,667 Notes 6-7 May Combat

JN071809 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 May 87

[Communique No 2,667 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 May 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With a rare courage stemming from the great bravery of our forefathers, as well as from the spirit of Arab history and today's vigor, Iraq's honest men have continued their heroic confrontation of the despotic Zionist Khomeyniite clique, inflicting more losses each day.

The results of operations conducted last night and today are as follows:

1. Our heroic Air Force launched a series of devastating raids on enemy positions and assembly points, inflicting new losses on the scoundrels, and on their equipment, weapons, and hardware in 87 sorties. At 0015 today [2015 GMT on 6 May] our planes delivered an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target off the Iranian coast. After carrying out their mission, all our aircraft returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. The crew of our helicopter gunships flew 39 combat missions over enemy positions, assembly points, and vehicles in the operational areas, inflicting new losses on the enemy and destroying equipment and weapons. Our daring helicopter gunships then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. In brave combat activities and through effective fire from artillery, tanks, and mortars, our formations in the I Army Corps northern sector inflicted other losses on the aggressors and halted their engineering operations. They also achieved the following:

The destruction of a tank, 7 vehicles, a 57-mm gun, a medium machinegun, and 2 shovels [preceding word in English]. Another shovel was damaged, and a 15-man enemy patrol was attacked. All its members were killed.

4. One of our units in the II Army Corps central sector spotted an 11-man enemy group. Our men fired on the enemy force, killing all its members. In another part of the same sector five enemy personnel were killed.

5. In the VII Army Corps sector, a 106-mm gun, an observation post, four weapons emplacements, and three infantry positions were destroyed.

6. Two large vehicles were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

7. Enemy engineering operations were stopped, a vehicle was destroyed, and two ammunition dumps were set alight in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 May 1987

100 Settlements Destroyed in Anti-Kurdish Action

NC070805 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 5 May 87 p 11

[Report by Atilla Korkmaz and Eyup Kacar]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Iraqi Government has launched a wide-ranging operation against the supporters of Mas'ud Barzani, the leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, and Celal Talabani, the head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, who control part of northern Iraq. In the course of the action, 37 Peshmerga villages, including a residential subdistrict, were attacked by bombers. The number of settlements destroyed in these raids reached 100 in the past 2 weeks.

Further Reports on Talks With Egyptian Officials

New Egyptian Exchange Rate Set

NC061225 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1118 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] Amman, 6 May (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi met last night with representatives of the Egyptian community in Jordan and told them that definite plans have been formulated to unify the exchange rate of the Egyptian pound against free currencies.

There are currently three exchange rates for the Egyptian pound. The first is used in Central Bank dealings; the second is determined by commercial banks; and the third is the free market rate. The prime minister said these three rates will be replaced by a single rate, with the unification taking place in three stages, each lasting 6 months.

According to the new economic policy, Dr 'Atif Sidqi said, remittances from Egyptian expatriates and revenues from tourism will be converted to Egyptian pounds at the prevailing market rate, as determined by supply and demand. State-run and private banks will have to compete on the open market for foreign exchange. This policy will guarantee Egyptian expatriates a fair exchange rate for their transfers and a safe channel to make these transfers; that is, the banking system.

Interest rates on Egyptian currency deposits will also be reviewed with the goal of reducing the rate of inflation within 2 years. Interest rates should also be in line with the rate of inflation, he noted.

Dr Sidqi said the new policy took effect this month, May. He explained that concern over the possible impact of a single exchange rate on the price of imports was the reason for introducing unification gradually.

The prime minister added that interest rates on long-term bank deposits have been examined with a view to raising them. Interest rates will vary according to the term of savings deposits, he explained.

Dr Sidqi concluded his meeting with the Egyptian community in Jordan by noting that a general conference of Egyptian expatriates will be held in Cairo from 15 to 19 August. The prime minister stated he had discussed this issue with the immigration minister before leaving for Amman. Sidqi added that the conference did not take place last year at the request of some Egyptian expatriates, who proposed that it convene biennially to reflect its significance as an outstanding event.

Sidqi on Amman, PLO Ties

NC071152 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Amman, 7 May (MENA) — Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has praised the current session of the joint Egyptian-Jordanian committee. He said the meetings' participants dealt with all the agreements reached on bilateral relations since 1984. He noted that at the close of the session, effective resolutions will be approved to implement all past accords.

At a meeting with chief editors of Jordanian newspapers and directors of information departments yesterday, Sidqi stated that in their meetings on the sidelines of the joint committee sessions, members of the Egyptian delegation and Jordanian officials concentrated on analyzing the regional situation following the recent PNC resolutions in Algiers. He affirmed that Egypt still believes an international conference is the best framework to secure an honorable solution satisfactory to all parties. Egyptian efforts in this regard will not cease, he said.

Meanwhile, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, explained the reasons that led Egypt to close PLO offices in Cairo due to regional developments. He said that Egypt still holds on to and defends the Palestinian cause despite the differences between the two sides, particularly those arising from the PNC meetings in Algiers. He noted that all parties are eager to resolve the Palestinian issue and that the international conference is not an end in itself, but a means to an end and a framework for finding a solution.

'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt still believes a solution must be reached by peaceful means. Preserving the Palestinian people's rights, including that of self-determination, is a constant in Egypt's foreign policy, he stated.

'Abd al-Majid also stressed that there will be no direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel and that this position is completely settled. If the Palestinians participate in an international conference, they must attempt to add the right to self-determination to [UN] Resolution 242; the conference itself will be convened on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338.

'Abd al-Majid stated there must be an understanding between Jordan and the Palestinians so the problem of the West Bank and Gaza Strip can be solved. We cannot give up our administrative responsibility for the Strip, he declared. He went on to say that Jordanian-Egyptian coordination is designed to crystallize a strong and united Arab stand, and emphasized that a Jordanian-Syrian understanding, which we support, is a step in the right direction. We in Egypt, he noted, have friendly feelings toward the Syrian people and do not object to differences of opinion, provided these are expressed in a civilized way that respects our fraternal relationship. Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and agriculture minister, Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, and his Jordanian conterpart, Muhammad al-Khatib, were also present at the meeting.

Sidqi Departs Amman 7 May

JN072000 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi left Amman for Cairo this evening. He was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and other senior officials.

AKHBAR AL-USBU' on Need for Arab Coordination

JN071148 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 7 May 87 pp 1, 29

[Editorial: "Arab Coordination To Meet Any Eventuality"]

[Text] The agreement between Jordan and Egypt on continuing political coordination with moves to attain a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement is the best pattern the Arab countries can follow at this decisive time for the region. This is true for reasons beyond the international conference.

There is no longer any doubt that Israel is determined to foil this conference even if it were to be convened. This is because Israel does not want peace, which would deprive it of all the political gains it has achieved in the region through brute force and armed aggression.

Therefore, there must be political coordination among the Arab states to meet any eventuality, particularly Israel's growing preparations for large-scale military operations on more than one front to reshuffle the political cards. Almost all of these cards now favor the comprehensive UN-sponsored solution Israel fears and seeks to frustrate.

Arab coordination is a necessity not only for the sake of the international conference. Indeed, it is a necessity imposed by a series of international and Arab developments to arrive at a joint formula or at least joint bases for collective Arab action in preparing for all possibilities and changes that may occur in international positions, which have now become increasingly positive.

Therefore, political coordination with Egypt is part of Jordan's firm policy to lay the foundations for full cooperation with all Arab states. This, in turn, is intended to reach a minimum degree of Arab understanding and coordination on the political, economic, and military level, which will enable us to cope with both peace and war.

Working to convene the international conference does not negate or lessen the importance of preparation and vigilance to confront any Israeli attempt to reshuffle the region's political cards by launching a new military attack.

Therefore, Arab political coordination is an essential factor if our nation is to meet the current phase, which is fraught with the perils of Israel's aggressive policy.

Diplomatic Ties Established With Albania

JN081100 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 May 87 p 1

[Text] Amman — The Jordanian Government has decided to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania at ambassadorial level.

Fadlallah Rules Out 'Breakthrough' on Hostages
NC080902 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0850 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Hizballah spiritual guide Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has ruled out the possibility of any breakthrough concerning the foreign hostages held in Lebanon. In a statement to the Lebanese newspaper *Al-Shams*, Fadlallah explained that the question of the hostages has been suspended until after the elections in the United States and France.

Information 'Does Not Indicate' Corpse of Hostage
NC071344 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The NNA correspondent in the north has interviewed Dr Sadiq al-Hasan, director of the Government Hospital in Al-Qubbah, where the body found in Wadi al-'Arayis near the village of Al-Qubayyat was taken. Dr al-Hasan said the murdered man was not a resident of the 'Akkar and Al-Hirmil District. He attributed the cause of death to burns on the body and a broken jaw. He noted that the skull was crushed in such a way as to confirm that death was caused by a fall from a high place or by blows with a blunt instrument. He added that there are many bruises on various parts of the body.

Dr al-Hasan said the dead man carried nothing that would identify him, such as a watch or ring, and claimed that this indicates theft was the motive for the murder. He added that the available information does not indicate the murdered man was one of the foreign hostages or that he lived nearby.

3 Palestinians Killed in Clash With Israelis
NC080804 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] AFP reported a short while ago that three Palestinians were killed and two others were captured in a clash at dawn today with a number of Israeli soldiers in the border strip near Tayr Harfa. The fighting supposedly took place after the Palestinians attempted to infiltrate the area.

Israeli Air Raid on Camps in South Kills 3
NC081211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1144 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes are still flying in the skies over the city of Sidon and the camps, although they stopped their raids at 1420.

A formation of enemy warplanes raided an area east of the Al-Miyah wa Miyah camp in two strikes this afternoon. The first was carried out at 1355 in the areas of Al-Ashrafiyah, Zighdraya, and Jinsnaya in east Sidon. The second came at 1408, in the southern areas of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp and 'Ayn al-Dulb. In both raids, the planes dropped several heavy rockets and came under fire from SAM's and antiaircraft guns on the ground. Ambulances and civil defense vehicles rushed to the targeted areas, and security sources estimated the preliminary casualty count at 3 martyrs and 20 injured. The NNA correspondent in Sidon said that 21 women and children were taken to Hammud Hospital for treatment.

Casualties Updated
NC081313 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] According to the latest information from Sidon, this afternoon's Israeli raid on the Palestinian camps left 7 people martyred and 34 others wounded. There was also extensive material damage.

Resistance Ambushes Israelis, Fires on Settlement
NC071551 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpts] In retaliation for the ongoing Zionist attacks against peaceful villages in the liberated and occupied areas, resistance fighters have fired rockets at enemy settlements in upper Galilee. They have also attacked an Israeli occupation patrol in Jazzin District.

An Islamic resistance group ambushed an enemy mechanized patrol on the Kafr Hunah road in Jazzin this morning. The group attacked the patrol with rockets, and used light- and medium-caliber machine guns, as well. One vehicle and a tank were destroyed, while 18 soldiers from the occupation forces were either killed or wounded. [passage omitted]

Another resistance group fired rockets at the Nahariyya settlement this morning. The enemy radio admitted that several rockets had fallen inside the settlement and that the occupation forces had imposed a security cordon around the area. However, the radio did not give any casualty figures.

Further on Resistance Attacks
NC071731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpts] Resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge as a joint patrol of the Israeli occupation forces and agent Lahd's militia was traversing the (Al-Qataran-Surayrah) Road in western Al-Biqa' this morning. As a result of the blast, one vehicle was destroyed and five patrol members were either killed or wounded. Enemy helicopters transported the five men to Marj 'Uyun Hospital.

The Islamic resistance issued a statement announcing that its men had carried out an operation against an Israeli occupation forces patrol in the (Al-Jabbur) area next to the township of Kafr Hunah this morning. The statement says Islamic resistance groups attacked an enemy mechanized patrol comprising three vehicles which was on its way to (Al-Jabbur). The resistance groups destroyed a Merkava tank and an M-113 type vehicle and

killed or wounded 18 Zionist enemy soldiers and agents. The third vehicle escaped.

A large number of Israeli helicopters flew over the area of the ambush and the occupation forces shelled villages in western Al-Biqa'.

The statement adds: Enemy support forces brought to the area of the attack were surprised by the explosion of some mines, which Islamic resistance men had planted earlier. This threw the occupation forces into a state of chaos. [passage omitted]

The Islamic resistance issued a statement in Sidon declaring that one of its groups fired two Grad rockets at the (Ghurin) settlement in the Galilee panhandle inside occupied Palestine yesterday. According to the declaration, another group shelled an occupation forces position in (Bislayya) with a Grad rocket and a 107-mm rocket yesterday. The occupation forces carried out an extensive search operation in response. [passage omitted]

An Israeli reconnaissance plane flew over Hasbayya, Marj 'Uyun, Jazzin, and Al-Biqa' for approximately 30 minutes this morning. In addition, a formation of Israeli warplanes flew over the southern coastal area and reconnoitored Sidon and the Palestinian camps while enemy gunboats continued their blockade of the port of Sidon. The occupation forces have closed the crossing point in Zummarayya until Monday.

Sham'un: New Government 'Possible' by Weekend
NC071052 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Following his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil, former President Camille Sham'un said: Our consultations dealt with the current situation facing the government. He added: All consultations are confidential; therefore, I will not say anything.

As to when he expects the wheels of a new government to be set in motion, Sham'un said: Within the next 24 hours, God willing.

When asked if it would be a new government, Sham'un replied: Maybe. Anything is possible, for we have not yet defined our stand. We are still studying the situation.

Asked if it would be possible to form a new government by the weekend, Sham'un declared: Yes, it is possible.

Amal Supports Karami Stand on Resignation
NC080541 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] The Amal Movement's Political Bureau has called on each and every Lebanese to rally around Prime Minister Karami's position on the question of resignation. In addition, the bureau said that only by unifying ranks and marshaling the efforts of all Lebanese would it be possible to achieve national unity and revoke the divisive status quo imposed on Beirut's eastern areas.

Shi'ite 'Army Supporters' Deployed in Maghdushah
NC072000 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] AFP has confirmed that 300 militiamen from Shi'ite groups known as the Army Supporters [Ansar al-Jaysh] were deployed in the village of Maghdushah and on nearby hills overlooking the Palestinian camps today. According to the agency report, these groups receive support from a number of 6th Brigade military personnel. Mustafa Sa'd, secretary general of the Nasirite Popular Organization, has stressed to AFP that he was told by the commander of the southern area that the groups associated with the Army Supporters do not belong to the Lebanese Army.

Al-Asad Pledges To Persuade Iran To Stop Gulf War

LD081121 Kuwait KUNA in English 0950 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Kuwait, May 8 (KUNA) — Syrian president Hafiz al-Asad has pledged to make an extra effort in trying to persuade Iran to halt its war against Iraq and accept a negotiated settlement of the conflict, Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas* said Friday.

The Syrian president whose country maintains friendly ties with Iran, made the commitment during a secret meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in a Jordanian boder area late last month, according to *Al-Qabas* which scooped with the news of the meeting.

The paper attributed the details of the Al-Asad-Husayn talks to "reliable sources" and has earlier quoted "a reliable Saudi source" in reporting the meeting between the two presidents who have been at odds for about a decade.

The Syrian and Iraqi heads of state agreed that efforts must be first channeled toward ending the Iran-Iraq war and that no party should in the meantime push for a hasty settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper said.

Al-Asad promised to try to make Iranian leaders accept a United Nations proposal calling for formation of a committee that would determine which party was the aggressor in the Gulf War.

Al-Asad and Husayn, who met on April 26 in the presence of Jordan's King Husayn and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince 'Abdallah, elaborately discussed the perils of the Gulf war and how to bridge a deep rift between their countries, the paper said.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn said for his part he would be satisfied if Syria which supported Iran in the Gulf war would only take a neutral position.

This, he said would be Iraq's condition for resumption of normal ties between Baghdad and Damascus, according to *Al-Qabas* sources.

The Iraqi president turned down Al-Asad's call for revival of a unity agreement signed by the two countries in 1978 during a visit by Baghdad by Al-Asad when Husayn was then vice president.

Husayn instead favoured a piecemeal thawing of the chill between the two neighboring countries and stressed that the war with Iran was now the main preoccupation of Iraq.

Iraq gauges its relations with other countries on their attitude toward the Gulf War, Saddam Husayn said and stressed at the same time that this should not be read that Iraq bears Syria a "grudge."

According to *Al-Qabas*, Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-Aziz said his country was prepared to make any "sacrifices" as to bring the Gulf War to an end.

To encourage Syria to stop its support for Iran, Saudi Arabia would supply Syria with 50,000 barrels of crude oil per day free of charge to counter Iran's free oil shipments to Damascus of 20,000 barrels a day, the Saudi crown prince was quoted by the paper as saying.

Al-Asad Said Willing To Host Palestinian Meeting

JN080952 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 6 May 87 pp 1, 18

[Excerpts] Damascus — *Al-Khalij* has learned that when Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met with PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash yesterday, he told him he sees many positive elements in the political program issued at the end of the PNC session in Algiers. [passage omitted]

Well-informed Palestinian sources said Al-Asad expressed Syria's readiness to host a dialogue meeting between the Palestinian factions that participated in the Algiers PNC session and the PNSF's factions. The sources affirmed that Al-Asad does not object to the arrival of Fatah representatives in the Syrian capital but only toparticipate in the dialogue. Once an agreement is reached among those attending such a dialogue, he will be ready to deal with the PLO regardless of who leads it. The sources added that President al-Asad does not oppose any Palestinian figure or faction.

The sources told *Al-Khalij* what took place during President al-Asad's meeting with PNSF leaders last Sunday [3 May]. The sources said Al-Asad told the PNSF leaders that what has taken place in Algiers contains changes. He added: I do not impose anything on you but you must not tackle matters as if nothing has changed.

The sources also said that Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, former PLO Executive Committee member; and former PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum told Al-Asad they are convinced that what took place in Algiers was a positive development and in the Palestinian people's interest, but must be completed.

The sources added that the stands adopted by Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Fatah Uprising Movement secretary, and his aide Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah conflicted with the positions taken by Ghawshah, Abu Mayzar, and Al-Fahum, and that they described the PNC Algiers session as having enshrined the course of capitulation. [passage omitted]

Al-Asad Receives PFLP's Habash 5 May

JN051559 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash at 1100 today. They discussed recent Palestinian developments. Dr Habash informed the president of the results of his recent contacts in the Palestinian arena.

The president stressed Syria's continued support for efforts to achieve Palestinian national unity on an anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist platform, free of maneuvering and compromise.

Habash Holds News Conference

JN071942 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] At a news conference in Damascus today, PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash shed light on his organization's stand following the Algiers PNC session and his meeting with President al-Asad the day before yesterday. Here is our correspondent in Damascus, Louis Faris, who attended this conference:

[Begin recording] Regarding the initiative presented by the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, Dr George Habash stressed that any initiative to complete national unity within the PLO framework by including all Palestinian factions must be treated favorably.

Asked about the possibility of reconciliation between the PLO and Syria, George Habash said the success achieved in Algiers will remain limited and incomplete unless it is followed by the necessary step of bolstering relations between the PLO and Syria. He added: The mission facing us and occupying all our efforts now is that of rectifying this relationship and restoring an alliance between the PLO and Syria. The PFLP and Palestinian, Arab, international, national, democratic, and socialist forces will continue to share in our work to solve this problem.

Habash said the PFLP has become part of the PLO, that is, it has broken away from the PNSF. However, he added: We still seek dialogue with any PNSF faction and do our best to return it to the PLO. Habash said the PNSF factions' presence outside the PLO is an obstacle to reuniting the PLO. He added that every sincere effort should be exerted to achieve PLO unity.

Regarding his meeting with President al-Asad, Habash said: A relationship of friendship, appreciation, and respect links me with President al-Asad. This relationship is based on a similar or close political view of the Zionist threat. During our lengthy dialogue, President al-Asad said what took place in Algiers could be considered a positive step. This pleased me very much. Habash added: This step should be complemented by unifying all the factions within the PLO framework without exception. The step will be incomplete unless national unity comprising all is attained.

Regarding relations between the PLO and Syria, Habash said: I understood from President al-Asad that this subject will hinge upon the PLO leadership's actions in the next few months. I was quite satisfied with the results of the meeting, especially since Syrian-PLO relations were strained in the past 4 years.

Regarding Yasir 'Arafat's declaration that he is ready to meet with any Israeli official, Habash said: If 'Arafat or anyone else violates the Algiers resolutions, we will ask our representative on the Executive Committee to raise the question and call for full adherence to the Algiers resolutions within the PLO framework. He added: I regret to say that 'Arafat makes concessions without any result. He is thus confusing the masses. We will stick to the practical implementation of the Algiers resolutions and will not be alone on this.

Finally, regarding his return to Syria and the return of those who participated in the Algiers meetings, Habash said: I have discussed this subject in particular with President al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and we hope the result will be positive. [end recording]

AL-THAWRAH Views Statement on Al-Asad USSR Visit

PM071525 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic
28 Apr 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Syria's Strength: Guarantee of Arab Rights"]

[Text] Developments in the region have confirmed that a powerful Syria is the guarantor of just Arab causes. They have also confirmed that close cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union thwarts imperialist and Zionist plots in the Middle East.

Thus, it is import to highlight the announcement in the joint statement issued on President al-Asad's visit to the Soviet Union that Syrian-Soviet military cooperation seeks to bolster Syria's defensive capabilities to enable it to confront of imperialism and Israel's aggressive designs. Syria and the Soviet Union regard this cooperation's strengthening as strengthening the Arabs in defending their just causes.

This fact. which has been confirmed by regional events, constitutes not only an important constant element in confronting Zionist and imperialist aggressive and expansionist policy but also a guarantee of realizing a just peace, imposing the will of the world community its institutions' resolutions, securing an Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories, and restoring the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Thanks to Syria's unwavering and firm stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict, many links in the chain of imperialist-Zionist plots to foist peace on the Arab nation and impose hegemony on the region through separate deals and partial solutions have been thwarted. This stand has also been able contain the Camp David line and prevent its spread; thus Syria has fortified and preserved the national cause and prevented the imperialist plan's implementation of making the region a fiefdom of Washington and Tel Aviv.

Therefore, Syria, which is strong by virtue of its principles, its domestic and national commitments, and its defense capabilities, can stand like an impenetrable barrier in the way of the imperialist-Zionist danger threatening both the region and the world situation as a whole. This is what makes Syria's stand, its strength, and the cohesion around it the cornerstone of any regional or international endeavor to end the region's potentially dangerous situation, which stems primarily from Zionist aggression and imperialist attempts at domination. On the basis of this concept and in substantiation of this fact and its universality in all matters concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Syrian-Soviet joint statement firmly rejected separate and partial solutions, the Camp David policy, and anything that may result from it.

The statement also confirmed that military cooperation aimed at bolstering Syria's defense capability in the face of imperialist and Israeli aggressive designs occupies an important place in Syrian-

Soviet relations. At the same time, this cooperation supports the Arabs in their legitimate defense of their just causes.

Parliamentary Team Returns From IPU Meeting
JN070641 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The People's Assembly delegation led by Shakir al-Sayyid, head of the Assembly's Arab and International Affairs Committee, returned to Damascus last night. The delegation attended the 77th IPU Conference, which was held in Nicaragua from 27 April to 3 May. The conference approved a number of resolutions calling for the convocation of an international Middle Eastern peace conference under UN auspices, with the permanent Security Council members' participation, and on the basis of Israel's complete, unconditional withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and a guarantee of the Palestinian people's rights. The conference called for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and for the implementation of Security Council resolutions on Lebanon. The conference also adopted a resolution calling for the Mediterranean to be made a zone of peace.

Shamir Rejects U.S. Plan, Offers Alternative
TA071647 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] At the end of the clarification talks between the Prime Minister's Office and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering, Mr Shamir is determined to oppose an international conference. The clarifications located the weak points in Peres' plan, and Israel has no business participating in such a conference. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami is in the studio:

The Prime Minister's Office is determined to object to the international conference even if the United States provides guarantees to the three central parts of the Peres plan, which are unacceptable: that the conference merely constitute an opening forum; that the Soviet Union only participate in it after it establishes diplomatic relations with Israel and opens its gates to Jewish emigration; and that the PLO will not participate in the conference.

The nyet [last word in Russian] voiced by Shamir's office is firm and unequivocal. People in that office argue that the conference is necessary to the Jordanians for its content. For the moment they are called upon to make concessions and seek Soviet and European support for objecting to this. Members of Shamir's office located the weaknesses in Peres' plan: It does not include a ban on the UN secretary general to summon the PLO; it does not include even one word on a shift from an opening to direct bilateral talks; there is no mention whatsoever of conditions for Soviet participation. The Israeli Government's position on the PLO has been uniform for the past 10-odd years: There will be no discussions or dealings with the PLO under any conditions.

Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told us that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has already given Secretary of State George Shultz his own plan for an alternative political move which is different from the idea of an international conference. However, for the moment there is no room for promotion of this move, because the Jordanians seem to be transfixed, as he put it, by the idea of the conference.

Details of Peace Plan
TA080929 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 May 87 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Pe'er-li Shahar]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir intends to present his own peace plan at the decisive Inner Cabinet session next Monday to counter Peres' plan.

A senior Likud figure close to Shamir said last night: We will adopt a positive line in the Inner Cabinet session, and we will propose the peace plan of the prime minister and the Likud. The highlight of Shamir's plan is a call on King Husayn to hold direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan without any preconditions. The prime minister will express his willingness to confer with Husayn anywhere to discuss the question of the negotiations. Other points of the plan are direct negotiations conducted according to the Camp David accords and the autonomy plan. According to this plan, Israel would be prepared to act together with Jordan in order to establish self-rule for the inhabitants of the territories. The negotiations would be conducted under the aegis and with the assistance of the United States as a superpower trusted by both sides. The Prime Minister's Office intends to adopt a positive line in the Inner Cabinet session in a bid to refute the line embraced by Foreign Minister Peres, who has been depicting Shamir as an opponent of peace.

A senior Likud figure disclosed to *Hada'Aot* that the prime minister would not object to the UN Security Council and its member countries issuing a special statement of congratulations upon the beginning of the negotiations, with that being the extent of its role. Shamir's proposals for launching direct negotiations with Jordan have been relayed by the United States to Husayn in the past, but the latter rejected them. Husayn made it clear that he does not agree to direct negotiations without the aegis of an international conference. [passage omitted]

Calls on Husayn to Negotiate
TA071730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stuck to his total opposition to an international peace conference. Speaking in Haifa, he called on Jordan's King Husayn to negotiate directly with Israel. Vivien Royston interviewed the Prime Minister:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] Direct negotiations about peace with Israel without an international conference. We don't need them, he doesn't need them, and I think that such negotiations will bring without doubt a peaceful solution and in not very far future.

[Royston] Shamir proclaimed that he is prepared to meet Husayn without preconditions anywhere and at any time, and if Husayn will only consent to direct negotiations with an international peace conference as an umbrella, what alternative does Shamir suggest to further the peace process?

[Shamir] The alternative is direct peace negotiations. I don't see any alternative to this way of negotiations.

[Royston] Do you feel that the American Government is actually interfering with internal Israeli policies by supporting an international peace conference?

[Shamir] I don't think they interfere. I understand that the United states Government prefers direct negotiations and are ready to help the parties in any way that could lead to peace.

[Royston] In Prime Minister Shamir's opinion, if the vote in the [Inner] Cabinet on Monday with regard to Vice Premier Peres' plan for an international peace conference is a tie, then the plan will not be accepted. Whether this will lead to the break-up of the national unity government is not, said Shamir, dependent on him. [end recording]

Shamir Plans Attempt To Block Elections
TA080922 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 May 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar and party affairs correspondent Ilan Shehori]

[Excerpts] Even after the tie the Inner Cabinet is expected to produce next week on the question of an international conference, the prime minister will still try to prevent early elections. Yesterday it was learned from the Prime Minister's Office that Yitzhaq Shamir will try to preserve the government led by him — without the Alignment, if Shim'on Peres decides to try and bring it down by means of a "defensive line" made up of the Likud and small parties such as the National Religious Party, Tehiya, TAMI [Traditional Movement, Israel], Knesset Member Yiga'el Hurvitz, and perhaps even SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim]. With their help Shamir hopes to muster a majority against the Alignment's motion to bring elections forward. Knesset Member Meir Kahane is also taken into account as supporting the Likud on this issue. Shamir would thus reject Peres' call "to go to the people and ask their opinion" if it emerges that the government cannot tip the scales in the political argument. [passage omitted]

Ilan Shehori, our party affairs correspondent, reports that Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday accused the Likud of making a mockery of political life by spreading rumors and lies in order to sabotage the peace negotiations and by saying that the Labor Party wants to sell the territories of Judaea and Samaria down the river. Peres stated that, if the vote in the Inner Cabinet ends in a draw, by-elections will be held.

The Labor Party Bureau endorsed Peres' political statement. In his address Peres referred to reports published yesterday alleging that his political plan includes a clause dealing with joint Israeli-Jordanian rule over East Jerusalem and that he had agreed with Husayn on the handover of parts of Judaea and Samaria. "None of my interlocutors asked for or received any promise of a territorial nature, neither on the question of Judaea and Samaria nor on the issue of Jerusalem. There is no decision on the international conference making our decisions for us, and there is no agreement on including the PLO. I am calling on Likud members to sober up, be honest, serious, and responsible, and stop making a mockery of political life by spreading unfounded rumors conceived by those people who want to destroy these newly-created opportunities," Peres said. Peres issued a last-minute call to the Likud leaders to join the political process.

"The signals I receive from the Likud are ones of absolute rejection. I hereby announce that, if there is a draw in the Inner Cabinet and we fail to make a decision, I will go to Mr Shamir and tell him: We have been together until now, so let us now go together to the people. If we cannot reach a decision together within the government, the decision should be made through elections, without resorting to any subterfuges or tricks," Peres noted.

He went on to say that more propitious chances for negotiations in order to settle the Israeli-Jordanian conflict and the Palestinian problem had not been created since the 6-Day War, or perhaps even the War of Independence. Peres insistingly lashed out at the Likud leader and said: "Initially they spoke of an unhatched egg. Now there is an egg, it has been hatched, and they are trying to break it," the foreign minister emphasized.

Labor Seeks Compromise
TA081100 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 8 May 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] In a bid to reach an understanding with the Likud at the Inner Cabinet session on Monday, the Labor Party ministers decided to propose to make do with an endorsement in principle of the understanding reached with King Husayn and with the formulation of a document of principles which would be binding on the Israeli Government and according to which the negotiations would be conducted. These principles would include opposition to the PLO's participation in the conference, rejection of any attempt by the participants in the conference to impose decisions, and setting down the conditions — diplomatic relations and Jewish emigration — for Soviet and PRC participation in the conference.

As part of this effort to reach an agreement with the Likud, the Labor Party ministers will demand that the Inner Cabinet decide on inviting U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Israel in order to explain the administration's position regarding the international conference to the prime minister and the Likud.

This position was formulated in a meeting the Labor Party ministers held 2 days ago in anticipation of the Inner Cabinet session. It was also decided that an attempt would be made to arrive at an understanding with the Likud on Shultz' invitation. The purpose is to have the U.S. secretary of state hold tete-a-tete meetings with Yitzhaq Shamir and Likud leaders and deliver a specific commitment from President Reagan to the effect that the United States would quit the international conference deliberations and would coordinate its positions with Israel if the conference attempts to impose resolutions. This position reflects a certain willingness on the part of the Labor Party to try and exhaust the possibilities of a dialogue with the Likud. The Labor Party ministers also realize that a decision on the international conference will not be made on Monday. Consequently, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres may postpone or even cancel his scheduled trip to the United States next Wednesday. Peres has already canceled his trip to South America.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir objects to a visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Israel in order to receive first-hand clarifications from him. This was stated last night by Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, in a meeting with political correspondents. According to Ben-Aharon, the prime minister rejects the notion of an international conference on principle and, therefore, he sees no need for clarifications on this subject.

Shamir Invites Peres to Internal Negotiations
TA071525 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1455 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has called on Shim'on Peres to conduct negotiations with him rather than present ultimatums. Our correspondent Qobi Mandel heard him speak at the Re'ali High School in Haifa:

[Begin Shamir recording] If you truly desire peace, we hereby extend our congratulations to you for it. However, please devote this year to direct peace negotiations with your neighbors inside Israel. Come anywhere, wherever you choose, without any preconditions from us or you, and let us sit at the negotiating table and discuss and seek a solution until we find one that is acceptable to you and us. Then you will conduct negotiations with all of the Israeli Cabinet. [end recording]

Peres Describes International Conference Plan
TA071549 Tel Aviv Educational Television
in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 May 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Dan Margalit on 7 May in the studio — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Margalit] Mr Peres, let us for a moment talk about the international conference you are proposing and the superpowers. They will come to the venue of the conference, presumably Geneva — incidentally, why not in Elat or Al- 'Aqabah?

[Peres] Did you decide that it should be Geneva?

[Margalit] I am asking you.

[Peres] I do not know yet; it may very well take place in Elat or in Al-'Aqabah. No decision has yet been made, and we have not yet announced the venue of the conference.

[Margalit] The representatives of the superpowers will come and launch this international opening which would then be followed by direct negotiations between us and Jordan, assuming that the Syrians and the Lebanese do not want to participate. What will the representatives of the superpowers do then? Sit by the lake in Switzerland and do nothing?

[Peres] They will go back home. Why should they waste money? Their duties and the extent of their roles is explicitly stated [in the document submitted by U.S. Ambassador Pickering]. The superpowers will gather and they will actually make three appeals to the Arab and Israeli sides: First, to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict through peaceful means; second, settle all aspects of the Palestinian problem as stipulated in the Camp David agreement; third, set up bilateral committees to conduct negotiations. That is it, period. Then they can board the train or the airplane and go back home; nobody will detain them.

[Margalit] Will Gorbachev agree to resume diplomatic relations with Israel and allow Jews to immigrate to the State of Israel just so one of his diplomats can spend a night in Geneva or elsewhere?

[Peres] How do you know that he will not?

[Margalit] I am asking you.

[Peres] You ask me, and I will answer. Gorbachev and his predecessors agreed to take part in the Geneva Conference. The Russians were not told even one word and they were not consulted. I am talking about the Geneva Conference with the participation of the Soviet Union and the United States. Nevertheless, they obliged and came to Geneva for one night, launched the negotiations between us and Egypt and went back home. Indeed, there are some people in our midst who are not prepared to make any concessions on Russia's behalf.

[Margalit] What you are talking about took place in December 1973.

[Peres] That is correct. Now we are in 1987 with a different Gorbachev who is prepared to go farther than his predecessors and with a different Soviet policy. So why do you think that they will not do that?

[Margalit] The Likud's question is: Mr Peres, why did you not settle the issue with the Soviets before you disclosed the issue of the international conference to the world? Why did you not try to obtain these commitments in advance? Why did you not pressure Mubarak or Zayyad al-Rifa'i to also tell the Russians that they insist on these conditions?

[Peres] I want to tell you that this is a very strong argument. As the Likud would have it, I should have asked Mr Mubarak and others to travel with me to Moscow so that we could work together for the sake of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. Well, occasionally one needs to use one's brains. What do they want? That Mubarak should join the Zionist Movement, and Uri Gordon's movement for Zionist self-realization at that? There is a limit to everything. I informed whomever I had to inform in the Arab world that in view of the agreement reached by the United States and Israel to this effect the issues of Jewish emigration and diplomatic relations would be dealt with by the United States and the State of Israel.

[Margalit] Will the Americans see that these conditions are met for us? And if the Soviets reject them, will the Americans not come to the international conference?

[Peres] If one has so many ifs, one should stay home and do nothing. Those who are afraid should sit at home. Initially, everybody said the issue was not ripe, but all of a sudden they became panic-stricken. Many things have been agreed while others remain to be concluded. The fact is that the issue of Jewish emigration has begun to move, and there will be 1,000 immigrants or emigrants — I wish I knew they would all be immigrants. In my opinion, progress has also been made on the question of direct immigration to Israel which is no less important than the number of emigrants. Disobeying the advice of skeptics, the Soviets sent two rather distinguished officials to Rome to speak to me. Why did they do that?

[Margalit] Let me interrupt you at this point. You are actually talking about an agreement between us and the Americans, and

I would like to make sure with you that I understand this agreement. First, the Americans will intercede for us in order to finalize the issue of Jewish emigration and the resumption of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union; second, they will quit the international conference if the Arabs violate its conditions.

[Peres] The agreement goes far beyond that. The Americans say that, if the Soviet Union fails to comply with the Israeli demands about the former's participation, they will not attend the conference at all. They did not say that they would intercede, but rather that they will go with us all the way. Moreover, if one of the superpowers or all of them try to interfere, disrupt, or enforce their position on the negotiations, the Americans together with us would leave the conference. All the stories spread by Likud members are really and truly horrifying. I did not believe they would say such things.

[Margalit] A couple of hours ago I heard Minister Arens saying that this U.S. committment is not included in the U.S. document. Should we infer from this that reference is to an additional Israeli- U.S. document?

[Peres] First of all, the Americans are prepared to sign an understanding with Israel, and it says as much in the document they submitted in response to the clarifications to the initial U.S. document sought by the prime minister. The Americans say that, and so do I. I am not saying that we should do without it. Indeed, one must really sink very low to think that any Israeli, including myself, would agree to have the Russians determining our borders. No way! Would the Jordanians agree to have the Americans determining their borders? No way! What the international conference does is to legitimize the opening of negotiations. It is more than just a ceremony, but it is not yet negotiations. Without this legitimization Husayn cannot enter negotiations, so that is why we must give the legitimization and begin the talks. What does Moshe Arens really think? That we are all idiots and that his faction holds the key to wisdom?

[Margalit] Allow me then to try and sum up the situation once again. There is the basic document which is your proposal for an international conference and the clarifications...

[Peres, interrupting] You will never let me see the end of this. My document deals with the question of how to open direct negotiations.

[Margalit] I see. There is the basic U.S. document dealing with the way to an international conference...

[Peres, interrupting] The way to direct negotiations with an international opening. It is really unfortunate that you should get so confused.

[Margalit] Well, there is a U.S. document dealing with the beginning of direct negotiations with an international opening; there is another document with the clarifications the Americans gave to Shamir's questions; and there is a U.S. willingness to sign an Israeli-U.S. bilateral document that guarantees both our status in the international conference and the conditions for the participation of the Soviets.

[Peres] Yes, sir.

[Margalit] And the Americans say that they are prepared to sign such a document?

[Peres] Yes. Moreover, we have attained a series of understandings with the Americans over the last 2 years, and those are the 10 points I have been talking about. The current document is basically founded on those 10 points I explained to the Cabinet. What is going on now is an attempt at disinformation.

[Margalit] Let us go back to the PLO. You have said that your policy may have isolated the PLO in the Arab world in particular and in the world in general. Will the UN secretary general issue an invitation to the PLO when he sends to invitation to all the parties or not?

[Peres] The answer is no. The UN secretary general is not committed to any specific conference. He will be asked to summon an international conference by the United Nations which need not include the Russians or the Chinese. When he issues the invitations, the UN secretary general will want to make sure that they are accepted or else why should he issue them. For example, in order to make sure that Israel will accept the invitation he must ask it, in which case we will ask him: Excuse us, are you or are you not inviting the PLO? If you are, then we will not accept your invitation. This will not only be our response but that of the Americans as well. Not only the Americans but also the Jordanians will ask him whether the PLO has accepted UN Resolutions 242 and 338, whether it has agreed to stop terrorism, and whether it agrees to be part of a Jordanian- Palestinian delegation. What do you think? That the UN secretary general is sending invitations to a cocktail party? He must make sure that those invited will attend.

[Margalit] King Husayn, who claims he has never met you, was quoted yesterday as saying that he realizes that Israel will not be able to return the entire West Bank in the context of a political settlement with Israel. Insomuch as you have talked to the Jordanians, did you hear remarks to this effect from them as well?

[Peres] I read the article just as you did.

[Margalit] I am asking whether you heard this from them.

[Peres] I am telling you: I read the article just as you did; we both read the same article.

[Margalit] Let us talk about the substance. Assuming that Israeli-Jordanian direct negotiations take place — as you propose and to which the Likud objects — what do you think Shim'on Peres, as the representative of a national unity government, can propose in negotiations with the Jordanians? The Allon plan, the autonomy set out in the Camp David accords, or what?

[Peres] I will answer that, but first let me tell you that the Likud also says that it is prepared to enter direct negotiations with King Husayn.

[Margalit] What will it offer him?

[Peres] What is the difference? The question applies in both cases. We will propose a transition period of self-rule by the Palestinians. I will not make any proposals or go into any details before direct negotiations start. After all, we have tried the opposite for 20 years: we proposed a plan and thus we actually precluded direct negotiations. This time it will be the other way around. We are telling the Jordanians: Come to the negotiations and say whatever you want, and we will listen; we will say what we want, and you will listen to us. I will not fall into the trap people are trying to set for me when they ask me what will I propose. At this point I propose direct negotiations because otherwise there will be no peace. [passage with review of historical perspective omitted]

Labor Leaders Back Peres; Peretz Voices Position

TA071625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The Labor Party Central Committee this evening endorsed the political statement made by Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that all the spokesman supported Mr Peres' position, noting that if no decision is reached in the Inner Cabinet on Monday, it will be necessary to hold elections.

This afternoon, Labor Party personalities met with former Interior Minister Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz, who said that he is prepared to accept a territorial compromise. He also noted that if the PLO breaks up, ceases to be an organization, recognizes the UN resolutions, and is prepared to negotiate with Israel, then he believes it will be possible to negotiate with individual PLO members who are not members of any organizations. Rabbi Peretz refrained from stating how SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] will vote in the Knesset on early elections.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that Labor Party Leader Shim'on Peres conferred some time ago with Knesset Member Avraham Shapira of Agudat Yisra'el on the international conference and the possibility of early elections.

Al-Shawwa Cites Peres on Withdrawal From Gaza

TA070914 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 May 87 p 2

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] "Seven months ago then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres invited me to a secret meeting. He had information for me: Israel would leave Gaza and give back sections of the West Bank on two conditions: Israel would implement a security policy in those territories to be evacuated, and there would be involvement in what Mr Peres called 'Gaza's foreign relations'."

This was revealed this week by Rashad al-Shawwa, the former Mayor of Gaza and present businessman still considered the "strong man" in Gaza, in a conversation with the *Yedi'ot Aharonot* correspondent.

Question: What did Peres mean when he made the withdrawal dependent on "Israeli involvement in Gaza's foreign relations?"

Al-Shawwa: "I do not know. I did not understand, nor did I ask for details. I immediately informed Mr Peres that his proposal would be rejected."

Al-Shawwa, who is considered to be very close to King Husayn, refused to confirm or deny the reports recently published about the secret meeting held in the 'Arava between Husayn and Shim'on Peres not long ago. He criticized what he calls the "plague of leaks" in Israel and, as an example, he cited the leak about the story of his meeting with Peres.

"It was agreed in advance that the meeting with Mr Peres would be kept secret," Al-Shawwa related. "I informed Mr Peres that another meeting had been arranged for me a week later with Egyptian President Mubarak to discuss the issue. However, not more than a few hours passed before you reported on the meeting between me and Peres."

"These leaks are destructive, they are creating unnecessary tension. When you do not like somebody, you rush to leak. The reports about the secret meetings rapidly reach the Arab world, and the man who was promised that the meeting would be kept secret is immediately labeled a 'traitor'. And why not? When there are leaks about a secret meeting, the impression is deliberately created that something else is hiding behind the scenes, something both sides are interested in keeping secret because they are afraid of something."

AL-QUDS Views Labor-Likud Disagreement on Peace

TA071107 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 3 May 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Multifaceted Peace"]

[Text] The disagreement among political circles in Israel reflects an attempt by the two major political parties in the unity government to impose their viewpoints with regard to achieving the peace called for by Israel.

The Labor Party, led by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, is trying to make progress in the peace process with an eye to implementing his party's plan, known as the territorial compromise. The Likud, led by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, is attempting to create the basis for peace by means of direct bilateral negotiations; by implementing autonomy for the people, not the land; and by ensuring that Israel permanently and legitimately retains the occupied Arab territories.

The territorial compromise proposed by Yiga'el Allon, one of Israel's previous foreign ministers, ensures that Israeli forces will remain in strategically important parts of the occupied lands, contributes to granting the established settlements a semblance of legality, fulfills the principle of division of duties in other parts of this land, and gives the rest back to Jordan.

Apparently Peres' consent to convening an international umbrella without powers with the participation of some of the parties to the conflict, as well as to the setting up of bilateral

negotiating committees by these parties, is basically aimed at achieving the principle of territorial compromise or part of the land in return for peace — not land in return for peace as stipulated by Security Council Resolution 242 — part of which can be implemented according to the Allon Plan.

On the other hand, Shamir is trying to achieve peace in return for peace, without any need to bargain for any part of the land which Shamir considers to be an indivisible part of Eretz Yisra'el. Therefore, the solution requires that the Arabs residing on this land be governed by an autonomy system that distinguishes between the residents and the land.

The existing differences between the poles in the Israeli Government are therefore related to attempts by the political parties to make territorial gains. While the Labor Party agrees to the principle of division of duties and the return of some of the land in return for a total peace, the Likud rejects this plan and is trying to keep the land.

What the major Israeli political parties are endeavoring to propose is totally incompatible with the demand of the Arab parties to the conflict, which are trying to reclaim all the land in return for a comprehensive, durable, and just peace. We also note that the United States and Israel are attempting to link Jordan's name to these ideas and views, despite Jordan's proclaimed positions on the need to convene an international peace conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, as this is the minimum to which the Arabs might agree.

Shamir Aide on 'Secret' Trip for Talks in U.S.

TA080414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, has left for Washington this morning on what was supposed to be a secret visit. Our political correspondent has learned that Ben-Aharon will meet, among others, with administration officials, as well as other political figures who are involved in the political process in the Middle East.

Office Denies Secrecy

TA080528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office has reported that Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the office, will travel to the United States next week on a series of lectures on behalf of the Israel Bonds, and that this will not be a secret visit. Our political correspondent reports, however, that Ben-Aharon will meet with administration officials in Washington, as well as with other political figures involved in the Middle East political process.

Rabin Questioned on Violence in Territories

TA080815 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 8 May 87

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Ilan Dayan and Mikha Friedman — live]

[Text] [Dayan] Yitzhaq Rabin, good morning to you.

[Rabin] Good morning.

[Dayan] Yesterday three Molotov cocktails were thrown in Qalqilyah, a bottle was thrown in Nabulus, a car was set on fire in Gaza, and the settlers are complaining about the shaky security situation in the area. You have not yet answered them.

[Rabin] First, we are indeed witnessing some increase in a certain type of attacks, mainly Molotov cocktails, and we must deal with this. There is no doubt that as defense minister I carry the overall responsibility and it is my duty to deal with this.

[Friedman] The settlers are saying that the IDF and the defense establishment are not doing enough.

[Rabin] One would be somewhat justified in saying that, if such incidents do occur, this means that we have not uncovered them in time and have not yet found all the ways to significantly reduce the number of attacks. I would also like to explain that for the past 20 years we have occasionally witnessed a rise in terrorist activity. These waves are usually linked to events that cause a small segment of the inhabitants of the territories to increase their activity. This happened in the past and is still happening...

[Friedman, interrupting] To what events are the recent attacks linked?

[Rabin] Perhaps you will permit me to continue? I believe that the recent events are linked to the atmosphere that has been created in the wake of the Algiers PNC session, as well as to the fear among Fatah and other Palestinian terror organizations that we have an opportunity to launch political negotiations in which they will not be included. There is no doubt that the main aim of Palestinian terrorism is to prevent a political solution — a political solution acceptable to Israel, which naturally excludes the PLO. We have already seen this trend toward increased activity over the last 2-3 weeks. We have to remember that it is easier to handle organized terrorism, strange as this may seem. Indeed, if we reviewed all the events of the last few months, it would be hard to find terrorist attacks involving weapons such as firearms and standard explosive charges. To a large extent we have been witnessing activity on the level of local organizations, which are indeed inspired by the PLO, but are not necessarily organized by the central organization. At present, Molotov cocktails and stones are the primary means being used. As is well know, it is extremely easy to make Molotov cocktails; every boy and adult can make them from materials that can be bought in any hardware store. We have also been witnessing more stabbing incidents. There is no doubt that it is our duty to do everything possible — and today there is no political restriction — given the necessary legal basis, to deport instigators and organizers...

[Dayan, interrupting] Mr Rabin, is there any intention of increasing the administrative measures?

[Rabin] I want to explain this to you: There is no need to increase the measures, because as far as the political echelon is concerned — as far as I am concerned — there are no restrictions on deportations and administrative detentions of elements responsible for inciting and organizing this activity, under the condition that all this is conducted legally, of course.

[Dayan] However, you are the one who determines to what extent these measures will be used. Do you intend to increase this use?

[Rabin] I do not have to increase this, because the security branches can already use detentions or deportations, given the legal basis, to whatever extent they see fit.

[Dayan] Mr Rabin, I would like to ask you about the settlers' actions in Qalqilya last week. What went through your head when you saw the pictures from Qalqilyah last week, when you saw the settlers clashing with IDF soldiers and insulting them?

[Rabin] I would like to say that there is no doubt that the settlers' actions in Qalqilyah following the PLO murders and attempted murders only play into the hands of the terror organizations. I have no doubt that the events in Qalqilyah might lead to additional conflagrations. Naturally, I am not saying that the two Molotov cocktails thrown yesterday are necessarily linked to the events in Qalqilyah. However, I have no doubt that such reactions only serve the terrorist organizations that want to attack us. Second, I think that insulting IDF soldiers by using the names we have heard on television is very serious. They are forgetting that these are the soldiers who are protecting settlers.

[Dayan] Mr Defense Minister, earlier you touched upon the political angle. The Inner Cabinet is scheduled to discuss the international conference next week. Meanwhile, the political activity is starting to become reminiscent of election time. Do you think the government has a chance of surviving after next Monday, with Yitzhaq Shamir calling upon Husayn to come to direct negotiations and Peres working out the details of an international conference with the king?

[Rabin] First, at this stage the government is faced with a first rate achievement — an American proposal which has been submitted to Israel and Jordan. It makes no difference how the Americans reached this proposal. This proposal enables direct peace negotiations between Jordan, Palestinians who are not PLO members...

[Dayan, interrupting] Mr Rabin, does this proposal, as you know it, block any PLO participation?

[Rabin] Excuse me, perhaps you will permit me to speak?

[Dayan] Does this U.S. proposal prevent any possibility of PLO participation?

[Rabin] I am telling you that we will not sit together with the PLO. The issue of whether it prevents it or not is irrelevant, because I believe that the United States has a 12-year-old commitment to Israel not to hold any contacts with the PLO. We will certainly not hold any contacts.

[Dayan] Will we not allow it to be invited to such an opening?

[Rabin] Will you allow me to express myself? Perhaps you will start listening before you speak?

[Dayan] We want to listen.

[Rabin] Then let me repeat that there is a U.S. proposal which in my opinion permits at least an understanding between the United States, Jordan, and Israel on arriving at direct negotations following the opening of an international conference. I think that we should have enabled the U.S. secretary of state to come to our region — and we have prevented him from doing this — in order to strengthen the understanding between us and the Americans, and through them with Jordan, in order to continue the process and examine to what extent the international framework, or those who will participate in it, can facilitate the implementation of the tripartite agreement. I want to remind you that in 1973 we went to an international conference without imposing any conditions on the Soviets, because through Kissinger we achieved an Egyptian-Israeli-American agreement. There was an opening, and later, without direct negotiations, we achieved the disengagement agreements between Egypt and Israel and Syria and Israel, and this was the first stage in the process that led to the Camp David agreements. Naturally we cannot expect to solve everything there. However, we should remember that we are coming to these negotiations without preconditions — that is, without promising what we promised Al-Sadat even before he came to Jerusalem: all of the Sinai in exchange for peace. In the present case, Israel has not said what demands it will make during the negotiations. Everything is open for the government to decide on the eve of such negotiations.

[Dayan] Finally, Mr Rabin, there was one more issue on which I would like to hear your opinion. We have heard from the Eban committee, from which the leaks are continuing to flow, that severe conclusions are being formulated against you there. This rumor was later denied, following a purported telephone conversation between you and Eban. However, are you vulnerable in this committee, without any friend to protect you there?

[Rabin] I do not want to discuss the committee's work. This is a Knesset subcommittee which has a supervisory role over the Knesset. I do not consider it an inquiry committee. It does not have the tools and is not meant to be such a committee. It is a committee of politicians, not judges. I do not want to go into the details of the issue. However, I believe we should wait for its work to be completed. However, judging from the leaks it is already clear there is more political maneuvering than serious discussion, and I regret this.

[Dayan] Mr Defense Minister, thank you.

[Rabin] Shalom.

Maj Gen Peled: 'Strong Chance' of War With Syria

TA070943 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 May 87 p 6

[Report by Amir Gilat]

[Text] "Syria is still thinking about the option of 'taking' the Golan Heights, and it has motivation to do so. The Syrian Army is acquiring advanced equipment and is training very intensively. To my regret, there is a strong chance that there will be a war with Syria." This was said by Yosi Peled, the commander of the Northern Command, in a conversation with students in Qiryat Tiv'on yesterday.

The commander expressed the belief that in view of the developments in Lebanon, we are faced with a more difficult period in the security zone and the northern settlements are facing heavier pressure. He said that, since the Syrian deployment southward, Amal units have begun to increase their pressure on the security zone.

Major General Peled estimated that the Hizballah organization will be unable to ignore this move; consequently its personnel will also increase their attempts to attack the northern settlements.

He pointed out that, since the Peace for Galilee war, there has been a trend of Palestinians returning to Lebanon, and the creation of Palestinian 'pockets' that will also try to attack Israel is to be expected. He commented that there should be no rush to make decisions based on the current situation in Lebanon, which could change rapidly.

As for Syria, the commander of the Northern Command said the Syrian nation is pleading for the return of the Golan Heights to Syria, which is not yet ready to do this through a political move. He said the Syrian Army is soon to be equipped with MiG-29 planes which would mark a "new era in Syrian airspace."

The major general emphasized that, although there is a good chance of war, Israel and the IDF have the ability to influence the other side. "If we show a high level of security and training, we will at least be able to postpone the war, and this would also be an accomplishment," he said.

AL-QUDS Calls on Arabs To Create Peace Momentum

TA071856 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 8 May 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Peace and the Sword"]

[Text] Once again King Husayn has reiterated his rejection of the principle of direct bilateral negotiations, indicating that the international conference is the only means left for advancing the peace process. He added that the United States cannot play the role of an honest broker because it has lost a great deal of its credibility with a considerable number of Arab countries. King Husayn also affirmed the need for PLO participation in the international conference.

The elements of the Arab position are summarized in the convening an international conference under U.S. and Soviet chairmanship and UN supervision (because the United States has lost its credibility in the region) as well as active participation by the PLO in the work of the conference. When pondering this position we cannot determine which party it represents as King Husayn, Yasir 'Arafat, Hafiz al-Asad, and Husni Mubarak speak in the same language with only slight differences in tone.

Despite the common language, the three Arab leaders do not talk with Yasir 'Arafat and do not coordinate their policy for advancing the peace process with the PLO. This gives Israel the opportunity to talk peace unilaterally and with one party, relying on the state of discord and fragmentation that the Arab world is experiencing.

Yesterday Israel Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reaffirmed his position by calling for direct bilateral talks that will allow Israel to retain the territories it occupied in 1967 and that will turn the Arab residents into a mere minority or community that lives in what is called Eretz Yisra'el. A few days ago Shamir also spoke about peace and the sword. He said: We cannot talk about peace without holding in our hands a strong sword by which we can choose the options of peace and war and which allows Israel to gain the peace that fulfills all its demands. Should this phenomenon continue together with aggravation of the phenomenon of political chaos and the confusion in the initiatives and speculation in the Arab world, the Arab side will lose even its capability to talk about peace.

The Arab swords are aimed at the necks of the Arabs. The cost of the impasse is being paid by the Arab nations in general and the Palestinian people in particular. The Arab leaders should embark on producing an Arab position that can create a momentum toward the international conference because pleading for an international conference will bring about nothing but another political impasse, the heavy price of which will be paid by all the Arabs.

Mitzna' Appointed Chief of Central Command

TA080924 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Major General 'Amram Mitzna' has taken over command of the Central Command today. He replaces Ehud Baraq, who will become the deputy chief of staff. Mitzna' had been deputy chief of operations in the General Staff. He made headlines during the Lebanon War by saying he had no confidence in Ari'el Sharon, who was then defense minister, and that Sharon should resign.

Women's Delegation Invited to Moscow Next Month

TA061810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] A delegation of Israeli women has been invited to visit Moscow next month. Knesset Member [MK] Ora Namir told our correspondent that this is the first invitation of its kind in 25 years. In addition to Mrs Namir, the delegation will apparently include MK's Nava Arad and Haya Grossman as well as members of HADASH and organizations affiliated to that party.

ALGERIA

Committee Examines High Youth Unemployment

LD071923 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] A meeting of the Higher Youth Council's Social Protection Committee chaired by Brother Abdelkarim Souissi, member of the party's Central Committee Permanent Secretariat in charge of the council, was held at party headquarters today. The participants examined a report on youth employment [passage indistinct].

The document's statistics show that many young people are unemployed, which means there must be real solutions to the youth problem based on systematic social and economic analysis.

LIBYA

Paris Radio on Vanuatu's Expulsion of 2 Libyans

LD072145 Paris International Service in French
2030 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpt] It is not only in Africa that Libyan activities are causing concern. Even Vanuatu, in the Pacific, which had decided to establish diplomatic relations with Tripoli, has expelled two Libyans. These two officials are said to have violated diplomatic norms. This will reassure Australia and New Zealand, which are both worried about Libyan activities in the area and particularly about Soviet penetration of the region. [passage omitted]

Iran Rejects Al-Qadhdhafi Demand for Troop Return

NC071521 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 May (MENA) — The Iranian Government has rejected Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's demand to allow Libyan military personnel serving in Iran to return home.

This was announced by a responsible source in the National Front for the Salvation of Libya [NFSL]. He said Iran has refused to permit the Libyans to return, as they are now at the front and possess military secrets. As such, they are considered detainees in Iran. The source explained that Al-Qadhdhafi had sent antiaircraft missile batteries to Iran, as well as long-range missile batteries used to strike Baghdad.

Meanwhile, another NFSL source has stated that the Libyan Army's losses in Chad have caused resentment against Al-Qadhdhafi and his regime among all Libyans, particularly those in the military. This has forced Al-Qadhdhafi to remove important Army commanders and personnel and to move large Army units to the Aozou region.

Citing NFSL circles in Libya, the source added that Al-Qadhdhafi has recently transferred over 2,000 officers and men to Uganda. He felt these troops were a threat to his regime.

SUDAN

Council of Ministers Discusses Downed Plane

EA071841 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpt] At its meeting today under Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the Council of Ministers reviewed the circumstances surrounding the downing of a Cessna plane the day before yesterday [5 May] near Malakal Airport. His excellency the prime minister and defense minister stressed that there were no plans to halt flights to the south, and that security measures ensuring the safety of planes going there (?existed).

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also told council members about the contents of the letter his excellency received at the beginning of the week from Ethiopian President [as heard] Mengistu. [passage omitted]

CONGO

Acheikh ibn Oumar on Reconciliation With Goukouni

AB071352 Paris AFP in French 1253 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Brazzaville, 7 May (AFP) — Acheikh ibn Oumar, the president of the Libyan-backed New GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], who has been in Brazzaville since Monday [4 May], told AFP in Brazzaville today he was "ready to reunite with Goukouni Oueddei on a new basis."

Acheikh ibn Oumar, who is leading a 15-man New GUNT delegation, said, however, that he wished Goukouni Oueddei "would abandon his present position, which is tantamount to outright defection." "We are all in favor of national reconciliation, but not a defection in humiliation," the New GUNT president added.

A Burkinabe mediation effort failed last week in Ouagadougou, where the past and present GUNT leaders happened to be. Acheikh ibn Oumar stated that he had come to Brazzaville to "make it clear to the international public that the case of Chad is still in the hands of Congo, in accordance with OAU resolutions."

After calling on "progressive" African regimes and peoples for solidarity, the president of the New GUNT, who will be received in audience by the Congolese head of state, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, pointed out that what is happening in Chad is no different "from imperialist maneuvers in Angola and elsewhere."

He also condemned the installation of a military base "of aggression in Kamina (Zaire)."

Sassou-Nguesso Receives Togolese Emissary

AB071208 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] President Denis Sassou-Nguesso met in Brazzaville yesterday with Koffi Djondo, Togolese minister of industry and state corporations. He also had a message from President Eyadema for President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. President Nguesso's talks with the Togolese minister were devoted to bilateral relations.

GHANA

Secretary Appeals to Students To Resume Classes

AB072147 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The secretary for education and culture, Dr Mohamed Ben Abdallah, has advised those students of the University of Ghana who have refused to attend lectures to resume classes. Commenting on the attitude of some of the students at Legon in an interview in Accra today, Dr Abdallah lamented that some students could resort to boycott of lecture in support of a fellow student who is being held by the police for investigation in connection with his involvement in wee [marijuana] trafficking. He expressed dismay that in spite of the fact that many students clearly appreciated the criminal issues involved in this matter, they have allowed themselves to be held to ransom by a few elements with ulterior political motives. This is evidenced by the provocative pronouncements of the present and past student leaders at several student meetings, particularly the last one held in the night of 6 May 1987 at the cafeteria, Legon. In fact, some of the false and provocative utterances, clearly designed to work up the gullible student body into a state of frenzy, are downright seditious and subversive, he said.

Concluding, the secretary observed that this is one government that has been extremely tolerant in accommodating the disrespect, arrongance, and sometimes insults from certain privileged persons in the society who should rather be mindful and appreciative of the enormous sacrifices of the taxpaying public.

GUINEA

Radio Lauds Trade Union Progress Under CMRN

AB070728 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 5 May 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Recently, Guinean workers enthusiastically celebrated May Day in the spirit of the unity and democracy that have been restored in this country. It was, in fact, on that occasion that some people, whose intentions were to stop progress in order to defend hidden causes, tried to discourage Guinean workers through leaflets, rumors, subversive statements, and other illegal means with a view to blackmailing the country's trade union. Here is an analysis by our editorial staff of the trade union question in our country.

First of all, let us note two facts: The first is that the creation, development, and organization of the African trade union movement in general, and south of the Sahara in particular, have largely been possible thanks to the assistance of the metropolitan national trade unions and international trade union organizations. As a result of this, the young African trade unions, which were weak and inexperienced, squandered their resources in long political and ideological quarrels that had nothing to with them. Moreover, they were divided and therefore manipulated and gagged.

The second fact, which has been quite clearly noted and, moreover, is a consequence of the first, is that the major preoccupation of African trade union leaders has always been to seek the best ways and means to enable African workers to express their views and to unanimously defend their interests. From the stage of union they passed to that of unity, which resulted in the creation of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity in 1973. Article 8 of the organization's charter grants the right to vote and to be part of the executive committee to every country where trade union pluralism is authorized. Today, in Africa, there are less than 10 such countries.

These two facts, drawn from the history and struggle of African trade unions, clearly show that only unity among workers can give them the strength to defend their interests. At any rate, there are numerous cases in Africa and elsewhere that prove that trade union pluralism, which is presented nowadays as one of the apparent signs of democracy and freedom in many countries, does more harm than good to workers' interests. This is still truer in the developing countries, which are characterized by weak economic structures, very few trade union organizations, poor membership, and very poor professional trade union education. In addition to this, we must note the various serious development problems worsened each day by natural calamities, and the financial difficulties facing our countries; all these and so many more problems suffered by rural and urban workers.

It is therefore clear that our countries need today, more than ever before, support and resources so they may develop in peace and social tranquility.

In fact, it is neither by chance nor purely for the sake [word indistinct] whatever that immediately after 3 April 1984, the CMRN and the government of the Second Republic decided not only to preserve the trade unions, but also favored the organization of trade unions in Guinea, based on profession, and not on militancy within a political party as in the past.

This enabled workers to elect leaders capable of speaking and acting on their behalf to defend their interests. In accordance with the new status of the CNTG [National Confederation of Guinean Workers], after a 2-year term of office, exercises designed to renew the trade union leadership are still being carried out democratically in Conakry with neither fanfare nor demagogic slogans.

In our workplaces, companies, and enterprises — public, mixed, or private — discussions, consultations, and direct and frank dialogue between trade union leaders and management under the auspices of labor officials have helped elaborate the texts [words indistinct] — a practice unknown in Guinea before 3 April 1984.

It is therefore clear that Guinea's experience under the Second Republic eloquently proves to us that unity and democracy are the best guarantors of the existence and the efficiency of a trade union movement. This is in contrast to the misleading allegations intended first to divide Guinean workers, then weaken them, and, finally, to manipulate them. At any rate, in Guinea, the period

of [words indistinct] a trade union into a party, the demagogy of which [words indistinct] is over.

In Guinea, the trade union movement is quite free, as it is united and deeply rooted in democracy.

LIBERIA

Doe Threatens To Fire Corrupt Officials

AB071756 Paris AFP in English 1628 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Monrovia, May 7 (AFP) — Any cabinet minister caught in corrupt practices would be sacked immediately, Liberian President Samuel Doe warned here, expressing serious concern about corruption in his cabinet. State radio quoted Mr Doe on Thursday as saying many officials were not interested in helping the country get out of its present financial difficulties. Mr Doe said he was investigating a scandal of over two million dollars involving a cabinet minister who had gone abroad to negotiate on behalf of the government. Last month Mr Doe sacked two deputy ministers and turned them over to the Justice Ministry for prosecution for their alleged involvement in a 400,000 dollars misappropriation case.

President Doe also attacked the Liberian clergy, which he said has failed to approach the problem of reconciliation in Liberia objectively. He said he agreed with a priest who recently told worshipers that Liberia is a sick society. How can Liberia not be a sick society when the clergy preaches tribalism and breaks up marriages? Mr Doe asked. He also declared: Liberia has to be sick if the clergy is engaged in these blasphemous acts. President Doe's attacks on the clergy are seen as a response to similar remarks against his government. Church leaders have been outspoken against unfair practices within the judiciary and corruption among government officials. The most recent attacks by the church leaders centered on the deportation last month of Catholic priest James Hickey, who was declared an undesirable alien for his anti-government statements after 23 years as a missionary here.

MALI

Chad's Goukouni Oueddei on Reconciliation Efforts

AB071821 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People], and president of the republic, received Chadian opposition leader Goukouni Oueddei this afternoon. Goukouni Oueddei talked at length about recent developments in Chad and his determination to negotiate with the Chadian authorities, particularly with President Hissein Habre, so as to reach an agreement that will enable them to achieve reconciliation and peace. Despite his readiness for and determination to achieve reconciliation in order to build the country in unity, Goukouni Oueddei pointed out some issues which, according to him, must be ironed out before total agreement is reached. These issues bear on the existence of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], the country's Constitution, the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] and the reorganization of the Chadian Armed Forces.

Following this clarification, Goukouni Oueddei warmly thanked President Moussa Traore for the numerous efforts he has continued to make to achieve reconciliation among Chadians, to restore peace, and to defend of the country's territorial integrity. Once more, he asked him to intercede on his behalf with all those who can help restore dialogue and a lasting peace.

The head of state, for his part, recalled the total willingness of the Malian people, their party, and government to help find a political solution to Chad's problems. General Moussa Traore expressed the hope that from now on, any search for national reconciliation and peace in Chad would take place in an environment of mutual trust, devoid of any partiality. The head of state called on all Chadians to reach an agreement, to end their differences and the fratricidal war, and to work in a determined manner toward national reconstruction. He reiterated that this is in the highest interest of their country and Africa in general. The talks were held in the presence of Modibo Keita, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Dr Ngolo Traore, the permanent under secretary at the Presidency; Tidiane Nguisse, diplomatic adviser; and Mr Tiola Matio Kone, information adviser.

Following the audience, Goukouni Oueddei spoke to our correspondent, Gaoussou Tieme:

[Begin recording] [Goukouni] The objective of our talk with the president was part of the national reconciliation process in Chad. This crucial problem facing our country, that of national reconciliation, was what prompted me to travel to many African countries, where I had the opportunity to explain in great detail our determination to restore peace back home. It was also within this framework that we held our talks. As you are aware, President Moussa Traore is one of the heads of state who has always been concerned about the tragedy of the Chadian people and who has always combined his efforts with theirs so that all Chadians can live together in their own country. We have had lengthy discussions which we feel have been very fruitful and constructive.

[Tieme] Mr President, you said that you have met several heads of state and that all of them have made proposals. What is currently preventing you from returning home?

[Goukouni] As far as reconciliation is concerned, we have already begun negotiations in Algiers and we must conclude the agreement that will end our dispute in Algiers. As for the advice I received from the heads of state during my various trips, they do not deal with my return to Ndjamena in the near future, since we have already begun talks in a specific place and they must be completed in that place.

[Tieme] Mr President, in all the countries you visited during your tour, you were received by the heads of state. The only exception was Nigeria. Why did President Babangida refuse to receive you?

[Goukouni] I do not think President Babangida refused to receive me. He was prepared to meet with me, but if at the last minute he could not receive me, it was because of a domestic problem and because he could not come.

[Tieme] New GUNT, the former GUNT? What does all this mean to you?

[Goukouni] I am against using the new terms New GUNT or former GUNT. For me the most important thing is to achieve national reconciliation. Once peace is restored in Chad, no one will talk about GUNT No 1 or GUNT No 2. The main thing is for all Chadians to be aware of the situation and the importance of national reconciliation. All Chadians should get together in their country to think over their own domestic problems instead of having others do it for them.

[Tieme] Mr President, why were you unable to meet with Acheikh ibn Oumar in Ouagadougou recently?

[Goukouni] I think that meeting with Acheikh ibn Oumar would not solve any problem, since Acheikh spent 5 years with me during our struggle in the northern part of the country. Today, the issue is to solve the problems that divide those of us who have been GUNT militants, and those who are in Ndjamena. The Chadian conflict, as it stands today, cannot be resolved through a meeting between me and Acheikh. I did not want to meet Acheikh ibn Oumar because, and you are well aware of this, the latter has continued to be [words indistinct] for the GUNT and for Chad and this time I thought it was useless to meet him and discuss finding a solution.

[Tieme] Mr President, even this morning, Acheikh ibn Oumar stated in Brazzaville that he was ready to meet with you anywhere you want, and that he was ready for unity in Chad. What do you think about that?

[Goukouni] I think that my meeting with him would not solve the problem. The solution to the matter must be found elsewhere. That is why it is necessary for all those who oppose the Ndjamena regime today to meet and reach an agreement, and to begin unambiguous negotiations with the Ndjamena authorities so as to put an end to their disputes. That has always been our wish, but Acheikh ibn Oumar, in particular, and his followers do not agree with us. If so, we have no intention, after those blunders committed during our meetings in October and November, of reaching an agreement with him in order to achieve unity.

[Tieme] Mr President, about Hissein Habre, you said yourself that he is the Chadian head of state today and that you were ready to reconcile with him. But you have some differences with him, there are obviously some problems. Can you give some explanation of this?

[Goukouni] I cannot give further details since we have not yet met major obstacles that we must reveal to the international community. There are, however, some disagreements that have arisen in our discussions and I think we will be able to solve them very soon. For this reason, I do not see the purpose of listing them. However, we have minor problems concerning the Constitution that governs our country and we have some difficulties to resolve in order to reach an agreement on the UNIR, Hissein Habre's party, on the reorganization of the Army, and on which version of the GUNT should be engaged in the discussions, as we are aware of the GUNT's importance.

[Tieme] Mr President, when will peace be restored in Chad?

[Goukouni] I think that peace will be restored once we reach an agreement.

[Tieme] Thank you. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Government Statement Condemns RSA Elections

AB072207 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The Federal Government says the outcome of the whites-only election in South Africa will only succeed in increasing tension in that enclave. In a statement issued today in Lagos, the government said it saw no reason why 30 million blacks were (?illegally) disenfranchised against 5 million whites [word indistinct] qualified to vote.

The government said it recognized the multiracial election conducted by a black-controlled newspaper, the *Sowetan*, which voted the jailed nationalist leader Mr Nelson Mandela as the true leader of South Africa. The statement said the leader of the African National Congress, Mr Oliver Tambo, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Mr Allan Boesak, and many religious leaders were voted next to Mr Mandela, in that order. The Federal Government is therefore asking Messrs President Botha and his supporters not to rejoice at the outcome of the [word indistinct] election.

It emphasized that the future of South Africa depended on the total abolition of apartheid and the establishment of true democratic principles as practiced in more civilized societies. The government called on the international community to intensify pressure on Botha and his administration to start immediate and unconditional negotiations with the black majority to release all political prisoners and to lift the state of emergency.

TOGO

PRC Culture Delegation Meets with Officials

AB071544 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] A delegation from the PRC Ministry of Culture, led by Mr Ying Ruocheng, deputy culture minister, which arrived in the country yesterday afternoon from Benin, held a working session this morning at Party House with a delegation from the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture headed by Ampam Johnson, representing the minister. Welcoming the Chinese delegation, Mr Johnson expressed satisfaction with the excellent relations between our two countries and voiced hope that these

ties will continue to grow for the total benefit and development of our two peoples.

The Chinese deputy minister of culture, Mr Ying Ruocheng, emphasized the need for greater cooperation among Third World countries to free themselves from underdevelopment. He expressed his country's desire to cooperate with African states in all fields so they can benefit from China's experience. We may note that before the working session, the Chinese delegation was received at the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture by Minister Komla Dometo Gnemegnan. The program of the Chinese delegation's visit includes visits to Lome and the interior.

ANGOLA

CEMA Commission Discusses Areas of Cooperation

MB071458 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The proceedings of the first session of the Angola-CEMA Joint Commission, which began in Luanda yesterday, centered on the discussion of areas of cooperation between both sides aimed at the economic development of Angola. The most important point of discussion involved projects and areas of cooperation between Angola and CEMA in the following fields: agriculture and livestock, industry, transport, health, education, professional training, and foreign trade.

Angola raised a number of preliminary issues related to improving and consolidating the planning system in the national economy and broadening the capacity to sustain, repair, and rehabilitate infrastructures. Angola also wants CEMA to assist it in commercializing the countryside, as well as in developing and adapting the transport network to the current phase of economic recovery.

Planning Minister Comrade Antonio Henriques da Silva, leading the Angolan delegation to the talks with the CEMA delegation, encouraged the organization's member-countries to invest directly in Angola, particularly in mixed enterprises and sectors where the activity is mutually advantageous. Referring to our country's external debt, Minister Antonio da Silva said that it was now quite high due mainly to our defense needs in the face of South African aggression. In this context, he lauded countries such as the USSR and Cuba for their actions to reschedule the servicing of the Angolan debt.

In turn, (Marineve Morinov), the head of the CEMA delegation to the talks with Angola, reaffirmed his organization's readiness to reinforce cooperation with Angola.

This morning, both delegations were expected to meet with the Angolan health minister and with the chairman of the Angolan-CEMA Joint Commission. A plenary session is expected this afternoon to assert stands and sign documents.

FAPLA Forces Inflict 'Heavy Losses' on UNITA

MB071535 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] The fight against the UNITA puppet group continues to be the main concern of our defense and security forces as directed by the MPLA-Labor Party second congress. Accordingly, FAPLA forces stationed in the 9th Military Region, which includes the provinces of Malanje and Cuanza Norte, inflicted heavy losses on the UNITA puppets between February and April this year, resulting in the death of 73 gangsters. A total of 14 UNITA members were taken prisoner, and 36 others surrendered.

FAPLA forces also freed 98 civilians who were forced to live with UNITA and seized a large quantity of weapons which included 9 assorted mines, 4 hand grenades, 28 AKM and G-3 weapons, 13 knapsacks, 3 military uniforms, 24 mortar shells, and 8,745 rounds of ammunition of various calibers.

KUP Reports 'Critical' Food Shortage in Luanda

MB070732 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 7 May (KUP) — The critical shortage of food in Luanda has worsened following the diversion of essential food supplies to the battlefronts where combined Soviet, Cuban, and FAPLA forces are preparing for a big offensive against UNITA controlled areas. This was revealed to KUP on Wednesday by reliable sources.

Shopkeepers and vendors in Luanda and Menongue are no longer accepting local money, the kwanza, in exchange for their goods. Instead, they are demanding food such as corn and cassava meal in exchange for their goods, said the same sources. The sources also disclosed that Cuban troops stationed in Menongue often raid fields belonging to the local peasants in search of food. Meanwhile, the MPLA regime has decreased the amount of time peasants can work in their fields to a maximum of 3 hours a day under the pretex of minimizing contacts between the peasants and UNITA.

BOTSWANA

Railway Relay Agreement Signed With PRC

MB071415 Gaborone Domestic in English 1110 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Botswana and the People's Republic of China have signed an 11.7 million pula agreement to start the second phase of the railway relay to the northern border. The agreement was signed yesterday by the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communications, Mr Cuthbert Lekaukau, and the economic counselor at the embassy of the People's Republic of China, Mr (Zao Weh Zang).

A Chinese drilling team is already working on the 120 km for the southern border. Mr Lekaukau explained that work would start on the line linking Francistown and Ramatlabama as soon as the southern border one was completed. He said that the relay to the northern border would cover a stretch of 87 km.

A Chinese [team] of surveyors headed by Mr (Weh Zang) visited the construction site leading to the south this week. Mr (Weh Zang) explained that the construction of the railway relay was a joint effort by Botswana and China. He said machines for the preparations for the northbound railway relay were on their way to Botswana, and work on the project will start immediately after the southern end was finished.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano, UK's Thatcher Discusses Renamo, RSA

MB072042 Dakar PANA in English 1530 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] London, 7 May (AIM/PANA) — The British Government has asked the South African apartheid regime to drop its support for the bandits of the "Mozambique National Resistance" (MNR), Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano announced at a press conference in London today.

Asked if, in their discussions with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday, he had not sought her aid in pressing South Africa to call off the bandits, Chissano said "before I requested her to do so, she undertook to put pressure on South Africa to stop supporting them."

However, Chissano made it clear that the British and Mozambican governments held divergent positions on the best way to put an end to apartheid. "Mrs Thatcher says that sanctions do not work, but we say that sanctions will work if applied under the necessary conditions," he noted.

"I urged her to continue with what she believes to be the correct thing — to persuade the Government of South Africa to hold discussions with the ANC," he continued. "And I urged her to continue British discussions with the ANC and other democratic forces in South Africa," the president said.

Chissano said that the Mozambican Government did not oppose the search for the negotiated solutions to "other forms of struggles" but pointed out that so far all attemps for dialogue with the apartheid regime had failed. However, he said, dialogues could work, "if it is between the apartheid regime and the democratic forces of South Africa."

Currently a British military team is training 120 Mozambican officers at Nyanga in eastern Zimbabwe. There are also two Mozambicans studying at Sandhurst military academy in Britain.

SOUTH AFRICA

Personalities, Groups React to Elections Outcome

P.W. Botha Discusses Results

MB071900 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 7 May 87

[Interview with State President P.W. Botha by Andre le Roux in Cape Town — video recorded]

[Text] [Botha] You know a general election usually has its disappointments and its reasons to be pleased. I think we had a few disappointments. I personally thought that in some seats we would show better and an improved situation. But generally speaking I think we have reasons to be satisfied and to move into the future, to proceed with greater confidence and determination. I think it is a decisive decision taken by the electorate, and I think they have given the government a clear mandate — a clear mandate on the question of security which was a very important point during the election. Secondly, our reform policy was spelled out that it would be a constitutional and gradual application of our policy, and in that sense I think we also had a clear mandate from the electorate.

[Le Roux] Mr President, everything points to a new official opposition on the right wing. What does that hold for your mandate?

[Botha] I think I, on many occasions, when I addressed meetings during the election, told the country that we are not going to be influenced by the policies of other parties. We have a well-balanced policy; we have our goals, and I think that we are decided to achieve those goals without moving to the left radical road or to rightist radical opinions. Of course we would debate matters in parliament, and in the sense that you are (?represented in) parliament, arguments will be used from all the sides. Parliament is there to try and convince each other and to put up one argument against the other. But as far as our principles are concerned, and as far as our determination is concerned to follow the road of constitutional reform, economic reform, and social reform, as well as our determination to uphold the security of our country, we will not deviate from the course that we have taken.

[Le Roux] You partly answered the question, but what should the international world read into this election result?

[Botha] I think the outside world must now have a clear picture that they cannot dictate to South Africa. It is unsound; it is a road and a march of folly to try and dictate to South Africa. South Africans want to solve their own problems, and South Africans believe in moderate reform and well-balanced reforms in many directions. But at the same time, the South African white electorate is not prepared to accept a policy and follow a policy which would lead to one group dominating the other. The outside world must accept this, that the white electorate believes that they are here to stay and they have a special duty, and we are determined to follow our convictions in this regard.

But I wish to issue a warning, and I feel it is absolutely necessary for me to issue this warning. There is a tendency in South Africa to organize extra-parliamentary organizations to bring about change in South Africa, and there is a tendency to finance those organizations from sources not originally South African. I must warn against it. The government cannot allow it. Any reform, any change in South Africa must be brought about by parliamentary action as well as negotiations with other leaders in South Africa who reject violence. The country must know that I am determined to see that the government takes a very strong stand on extra-parliamentary actions of this nature as well as the financing of organizations from outside our country.

[Le Roux] Mr Botha, there was a keen black interest in this election. What can a black person read into this result?

[Botha] Well, it is not for me to say what black leaders must think. I can only tell them that what we believe is the correct course for them, and that is negotiation, which is necessary, and deliberations on matters of common concern must be taken up with the

leaders appointed by the electorate. South Africa has a clear picture on this matter of who the real leaders of the white electorate are, and wise black leaders — black leaders who believe in peace — they will come forward, and they will start negotiating with the leaders chosen by the overwhelming support the National Party received.

[Botha switches to Afrikaans] If I may be allowed, I would just like to say I believe I am indebted to the party to which I have belonged for so many years. It is a wonderful thing for me, after so many decades, to see this wonderful, fatherland-loving organization achieve its greatest triumph. I am indebted to the candidates who won. I am also indebted to those who fought with great self-sacrifice and lost. I would therefore like to thank all those who participated in this election on our behalf.

Now that the election is over, I think the governing party, as well as opposition parties, should devote themselves to making democracy work in South Africa. We are determined to maintain those things which have been built up over decades, culturally, economically — the stability which this country has built up over the years. I hope that, now that the fight is over, I will get the cooperation of all those South Africans who love this fatherland, so that they will help in safeguarding those valuable things in our heritage. There is much still to be done, in many areas. We do not believe that we alone have all the wisdom. I would appreciate the cooperation of the private sector, the academic world, labor, and organized industry in the country. This country has great potential, but we can only achieve that if we proceed with determination, dedication, and faith.

CP's Treurnicht Comments

MB072006 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 7 May 87

[Interview with Conservative Party Chairman Andries Treurnicht by unidentified reporter; date, place not given — video recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Dr Treurnicht, how do you feel about the Conservative Party's gains?

[Treurnicht] Of course we are very pleased with our gains. We feel sorry for those colleagues of ours who didn't make it. But on the other hand, we have some very strong members added to our members, and I think we have a strong team.

[Reporter] So, how do you feel that you beat the National Party at a few very important constituencies?

[Treurnicht] Of course we feel proud about that, but I think the reason is that the Conservative Party stands for a definite idea. We have a solid basis of principle and policy, and I think that appeals to the white electorate.

[Reporter] Doctor, it looks also that you are becoming the official opposition. How will the CP's role in parliament change in view of this?

[Treurnicht] I think it puts us in a strong position — both for putting forward our policy and for criticizing the government — and challenging the government on its own reform program and intentions, and demanding the safeguards for our own people and to safeguard the self-determination of whites alongside the rights and privileges of other racial groups in South Africa.

[Reporter] Do you see the CP's gains as a swing toward the right?

[Treurnicht] Most definitely, most definitely. It's a swing, I would say first of all, away from the Progressive Party. But the National Party is rather — shall I say from a viewpoint of policy and principle — is rather a mix-up. But the Conservative Party has a firm, definite, clear-cut policy and principle which, as I say, appeals to the electorate.

[Reporter] How do you interpret the PFP's losses?

[Treurnicht] I think the PFP didn't succeed in putting forward a clear-cut policy and principle which give security and safety to the white electorate and to safeguard definite rights of the white people in this country.

[Reporter] One could conclude from the results that your support lies mainly in the Transvaal.

[Treurnicht] That is so, definitely so, but we have firm support also in the Cape Province and the Orange Free State, with here and there also in Natal. We started, and I think we have made a good beginning.

[Reporter] Doctor, how do you see the future of the Conservative Party?

[Treurnicht] As I see, the Conservative Party is a young party and it's a growing party and fighting to gain the majority in the House of Assembly and to become the next government.

[Reporter] But you have to admit the National Party had a landslide victory. Do you think that it is possible?

[Treurnicht] Well, it's possible. It happened in the past. It happened with the government of General Smuts. It can happen again.

[Reporter] And finally, can I ask you: Are you considering any cooperation with the HNP in the future?

[Treurnicht] Not at this stage as a party. Members of the HNP are welcome to join the Conservative Party, but I think the Conservative Party has shown that we are actually the unity party on the right wing.

[Reporter] But do you think you will be able to swallow the HNP or gain some of its members?

[Treurnicht] I wouldn't use the word swallow. I would say that we are open for members of the HNP to join us in our fight to gain self-determination for the white people.

More From Treurnicht

MB071450 London BBC World Service in English 1309 GMT 7 May 87

[From the "24 Hours" program, introduced by Geoffrey Stern]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Stern] The result [of the elections] was not only a landslide for President Botha's ruling nationalists. It was also a considerable triumph for the right-wing Conservative Party which could replace the Progressive Federal Party as the official opposition. To many people abroad, the National Party itself looks pretty conservative. So, how does the Conservative Party differ from it? Would it reverse the modest reforms President Botha has already introduced? I put that to Dr Andries Treurnicht, the leader of the Conservative Party:

[Begin recording] [Treurnicht] We think that we will have to tackle the reforms already promised by the National Party. But judging the reforms intended by the National Party, we say it will be disastrous for real democracy in South Africa because it will, really, jeopardize the freedom of the white people in particular. It doesn't give any guarantee against a black majority rule in South Africa.

[Stern] But what does your idea of real democracy mean to the backs? Or does real democracy mean democracy only for whites?

[Treurnicht] No, no. It means separate freedom, because democracy in a multiracial state as the National Party intends now is a unitary state with nearly 20 million blacks belonging to several ethnic groups over against 5 million whites. We consider ourselves as a white community entitled to real self-determination. We don't consider it democracy when 20 million blacks dominate 5 million whites.

[Stern] But as a white nationalist — and you are, as you say, in a minority — if you are going to influence government's policy, do black nationalists have anything to look forward to?

[Treurnicht] Well, black nationalists, of course, have succeeded already in getting several independent and self-governing states. That is our idea of freedom; namely, that the various national groups among the blacks have their own legislative and executive functions within their own states, as have been achieved already in cases of four independent states and six self-governing states. That is our idea of self-government and of real self-determination.

[Stern] Do you understand the anger of blacks from being excluded from the poll?

[Treurnicht] Our whole point of view is that the blacks should have the opportunity of taking part in their own elections. But, as I have said, in a unitary state with 20 million blacks over against only 5 million whites it simply means to be outnumbered; it simply means the loss of white self-determination in its own state.

[Stern] Now, presumably you are on speaking terms with President Botha. What are you going to say to him in the next week or so? Are you going to try and influence his policy?

[Treurnicht] Well, that is being done in various ways. It's by debating in parliament. One opportunity, the first opportunity, will be by introducing a vote of no confidence and demanding from Mr Botha to spell out what he means by joint decision-making, by power sharing, and how he is going to protect minority rights in such a unitary system with 20 million blacks against 5 million whites.

[Stern] But you wouldn't expect to win a vote of no confidence, would you, when President Botha has got a landslide victory?

[Treurnicht] No. It stands to reason that in the present circumstances we won't win a no confidence debate, but you are creating a climate and influencing the electorate for the next opportunity; and that will be within 2 years, I suppose. [end recording]

Eglin on PFP's Defeat

MB072017 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 7 May 87

[Interview with PFP leader Colin Eglin by Andre le Roux; date, place not given — video recorded]]

[Text] [Le Roux] Mr Eglin, your party has taken a bit of a knock — as a matter of fact, a major knock. You only managed to acquire, at this point, 14 percent of the votes, and you are on the verge of losing your standing as official opposition. Your comments on this?

[Eglin] Well, it is a knock. I must accept this. I think we had anticipated the concept of the reform alliance would catch on, and quite clearly it did not catch on to the point that voters were going (?to support) it. So the PFP will have to go back to the drawing board, will have to do some hard examination of its tactics and its strategy, and decide where it goes from there.

[Le Roux] The NRP [New Republic Party] in Natal — that is where you took your biggest knock, your unexpected knock. [sentence as heard] Did you expect the traditional NRP members not to support you, in the way that they didn't?

[Eglin] Well, you know, we had always anticipated, or our projections were done on the basis that two-thirds of the NRP supporters would support us. It would appear that two-thirds of them did not support us. One can never tell. There was a move, there was a pact, an arrangement, at leadership level. But quite clearly that did not filter down to the man in the street; so that the alliance did not work in the Natal and border areas as we had anticipated. What is interesting about this election is that, not only in border and Natal, but around the country, when the polls closed, we were still of the opinion that we were going to do better than we did. So there was a shift that we certainly did not detect, in voter attitudes, and that certainly had a serious effect on the election as far as we were concerned.

[Le Roux] Retrospectively, what do you think the main reasons were? For your not detecting it?

[Eglin] Well, just because it was a low-key election in the sense that we did a considerable amount of canvassing; we found graciousness and a politeness when canvassers spoke to people across the door. But it would appear that voters were unsure of themselves, that while there was a fairly positive response towards the PFP, that voters at the same time had their doubts and reservations.

I think, you know, there was a tussle for strategy between the NP and ourselves. The PFP decided, as a matter of strategy, to concentrate on race relations and harmony as the two key issues. The NP decided to concentrate on security and violence as the two key issues. As it emerges in the end, the NP issues dominated the campaign in the last few days.

[Le Roux] Mr Eglin, you stand accused, or your party stands accused, of being soft on security. Wasn't that one of the reasons why you took this knock?

[Eglin] Well, I've got no doubt that the accusation is there. I mean, I will refute the accusation. But to the extent that the government made it a major issue, or made security... [changes thought] bear in mind that they had the ability to control the news to a very considerable extent, under the security regulations. Bearing in mind that, I believe that they had an SABC which was, I think, in the way it presented and selected not the programs so much, but the totality of the news, I think that they all played together to reinforce what I think was a wrong image of the PFP. But, nevertheless, it was very powerfully played by the government and its allies.

[Le Roux] Mr Eglin, you lost press, to a large extent, due to your taking a back stage, as it were, to the independent candidates. Isn't that the main reason for your party's failrue to come up with something?

[Eglin] No, no, I don't think so at all. I think that the concept of the broader alliance was a very viable one. Can you imagine what would have happened if we were fighting the independents as well, and if we'd been fighting the NRP? The opposition would have just seemed to be a shambles, as far as the public was concerned. I think in the end that the opposition actually developed a very cohesive image. It got its point of view across, but the government had a more powerful point of view. Also it oodles money, and it had media allies which we did not have available to us.

[Le Roux] Finally, Mr Eglin, if you do lose your status as official opposition, what future does that hold for your party?

[Eglin] Well, you know, we were not always the official opposition. Once upon a time we were a one-lady member of parliament team, and we grew. I think that the party will certainly have to review its position, and its strategy and tactics. That is how it is going to grow again.

But what does worry me, quite frankly, is that the tenor of opposition in South Africa, from the official point of view, is actually going to be put by the Conservative Party. This really does frighten me. I think of the kind of debates that you are going to have in parliament, when the leader of the opposition, on a no-confidence motion, stands up and attacks the government of being too liberal. I think this is very, very bad for South Africa. We will have to do something to try to retrieve the position.

[Le Roux] Mr Eglin, thank you very much.

Tambo: 'Grand Show of Racism'

MB080619 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] The ANC has described the recent South African whites-only election as a grand show of racism. Commenting on the NP's landslide victory, the ANC president, Comrade Oliver Tambo, said the results leave no doubt that the armed struggle is the only means to end apartheid. He states that the Pretoria regime will take the election results as a mandate to increase internal repression and destabilization against neighboring states.

UDF 'Determination' Unshaken

MB071358 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1342 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg May 7 SAPA — The stage was now set for the deepening of the South African conflict and further polarisation of the country following the white election result, the United Democratic Front said today.

A statement signed by the UDF publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe, said the clear rightwing shift among whites was due to the "outrageous and false Nat swart gevaar [NP black fear] propaganda."

"As the election heat and dust settles, white South Africans who voted for continued white minority rule will find the crisis and conflict has intensified, and there will be less comfort for all to take home," the statement said.

The UDF's determination to create a South Africa free of racism could never be diminished by the election outcome, it added.

"Sooner or later, whites will have to realise that the oppressed majority and their organisations like the UDF, COSATU and the banned ANC cannot be wished away. If anything, we are determined to ensure that this will be the last racist election in our country.

Five Freedoms Forum Statement

MB070958 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0953 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg May 7 SAPA — Hopes for a negotiated democracy in South Africa had been crushed by the white election result, the Five Freedoms Forum said today.

It said in a statement telephoned to SAPA the white electorate had shown "the government's two states of emergency have worked — the politics of fear and ignorance win votes."

The Five Freedoms Forum also found the results "profoundly depressing."

"The whites have scorned black demands for equality and basic human rights. They have voted for confrontation instead of negotiation."

The forum said the Conservative Party, as the official opposition, would "accelerate conflict and white on white violence will manifest itself."

"The National Party will increase the role of the shadow military government and shove parliament as a decision making body into the background.

"Extra-parliamentary politics have been vindicated as the only way to encourage negotiation and a non-violent solution. South Africa has chosen war, God help us all."

Black Workers Return to Jobs After Boycott

MB070753 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0711 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg May 7 SAPA — More than a million workers throughout the country streamed back to work today after a two-day stayaway to protest against yesterday's whites-only elections.

Thousands of pupils and university students who also stayed away returned to classes.

Figures released by the Labour Monitoring Group (LMG) said 1,050,000 workers had stayed home yesterday — the second day of the stayaway. It is, however, believed that thousands more stayed away in the public sector.

The Johannesburg city centre came to life again this morning as thousands of black workers flocked back to work and taxis and buses were running at full capacity.

A spokesman for PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Corporation], which provides the major bus service in Soweto and other townships, said the situation had returned to normal.

The LMG said at the peak of the stayaway yesterday that 96 per cent of black workers had stayed away in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage, with 12 per cent and 70 per cent of coloured workers doing the same in the respective areas.

In the Transvaal, 67 per cent of workers stayed away in the manufacturing sector, 76 per cent in retail.

At least 70 per cent of black workers in the townships around Durban stayed away, while 42 per cent stayed home in Cape Town.

UDF Rejects KwaNdebele Independence Decision

MB071714 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1458 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg May 7 SAPA — The decision of the Kwa-Ndebele assembly to opt for "independence" was a declaration of war on the people of South Africa, United Democratic Front acting publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe, said in a statement this afternoon.

"Scores of people laid down their lives last year opposing 'independence' for KwaNdebele," Mr Morobe said.

"The UDF and its affiliates committed themselves to defeating the independence plan, disbanding the Imbokodo [Zulu for grinding stone] vigilantes and dismantling the so-called legislative assembly.

After disbanding of the Imbokodo "we warned at the time that this victory would not be secure until the legislative assembly itself was scrapped.

"Our scepticism itself has now been justified. Opponents of 'independence' in the area have been locked up and expelled from the legislative assembly, the activities of vigilantes have resurfaced.

"Pretoria and their bantustan puppets will be held fully responsible for the consequences of actions which, if allowed to go ahead, will amount to genocide.

"This plan can only bring more suffering and misery to our people. The UDF and its allies supports the people of Kwa-Ndebele in their continued struggle against 'independence' and bantustan violence."

7 Hurt, 19 Arrested at Natal University Protest

MB080546 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2347 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Durban May 7 SAPA — At least seven University of Natal students were injured by quirts and hundreds of others scattered in terror this afternoon when police broke up a placard demonstration on the fringes of the Durban grounds of the university.

Police arrested 19 students — five white women, five white men, two black men and six Indian men — following a lunchtime demonstration to protest against police action at other universities and the arrest of 40 placard-bearing students in Berea Road yesterday.

The panic-stricken demonstrators scrambled up a steep bank into the university grounds when charged by riot policemen.

The police flogged stragglers as the bulk of the demonstrators scattered onto the campus.

The principal and vice-chancellor of the university, Professor Peter Booysen, who witnessed the events, has condemned the

methods police used to make arrests, saying students were hit from behind while others were "unnecessarily man-handled."

A spokesman for the Bureau for Information said that at 2:50pm at the University of Natal about 300 hundred students gathered with placards and sang songs. "The police arrived and requested that they disperse. The students refused and they were baton charged and sjambokked [whipped]," the spokesman said.

A police spokesman said the 19 students would be charged with attending an "unlawful gathering" under the Internal Security Act.

The Durban Student Alliance said in a statement tonight laws regarding such protests were "morally wrong." "This is, however, no reason to seek confrontations as was done on the campus today.... The time has come for thinking students to show their disapproval of such disruptions and start getting the education they paid for."

[SAPA prefaces this item with an advisory reading: "The following may contravene emergency regulations."]

More on Campus Demonstration

MB071606 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Dozens of Durban University students have been arrested after police broke up a meeting, using sjamboks [whips] on the campus. The exact number of those arrested isn't yet known, but lawyers from the university are trying to find out where they are and whether they are to be released. Students at the university held a lunchtime meeting to discuss the violence on other campuses, the results of the election, and the arrest yesterday of about 40 students.

At one point in today's meeting about 500 students carrying banners reading, Votes For All, and Cops Off Campuses, marched around the university grounds to a point where a road runs between two (?parts) of the campus. Confronted by police about 50 students sat down in the road and the rest ran into the trees. When they didn't disperse, police chased after them hitting students with sjamboks.

University Principal Professor Peter Booysen described the incident as shocking and said he didn't understand why police needed to beat students as well as arrest them. The university lawyers are to investigate possible legal action.

Information Bureau Issues Unrest Reports

6 May Unrest Report

MB071110 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1108 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Pretoria May 7 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 00h01 to 24h00, May 6:

"Included in this report are all incidents SAPA issued on behalf of the Bureau for Information yesterday.

"Middelburg, Transvaal

"Approximately 100 pupils of the Mphanama Secondary School in Mhluzi threw stones at passing private vehicles. One black man was arrested. No injuries were reported.

"Oudtshoorn

"A black youth was arrested in Bongoletu after a stone throwing incident. No damage or injuries were reported.

"KTC, Cape Town

"Two black men were arrested while digging a ditch in a road. A black man was arrested when a group of about 200 blacks threw petrol bombs at a police vehicle. In two other incidents of unrest police had to use birdshot. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Khayelitsha

"Two black men were arrested when a group of about 100 blacks threw stones at three buses. No injuries and minimal damage were reported.

"Guguletu

"Three black women were slightly injured when three black men threw a petrol bomb at a bus. No arrests were reported. A black man was slightly injured in an act of intimidation. A man was arrested in connection with this incident. A black youth was arrested after a group of blacks threw stones at a police vehicle.

"Athlone

"Two coloured men and an Asian were arrested by the police when they were found with petrol bombs in their possession. No injuries were reported.

"Strand

"Unknown persons threw three petrol bombs at the Hottentots-Holland High School. No damage or injuries were reported.

"East Rand

"Birchleigh

"A member of the police saw a group of blacks in a field near a polling booth. One man set a tyre on fire. The policeman confronted him. The man threw stones at the policeman and fled. The SAP member fired a shot wounding the man in his right thigh. He was admitted to the Tembisa hospital under police guard.

"Alexandra

"A member of the security forces was wounded in the thigh when an unknown person fired at on-duty members of the security forces from a field. No arrests were made.

"Northern Natal

"Zululand University (Empangeni)

"A member of the police was slightly injured by fragments of glass, when students demonstrating with anti-election placards, threw stones at the police. The group was dispersed by way of batons and twelve were arrested.

"Port Natal

"Cleremont (Durban)

"A black youth was arrested when a group of approximately twenty blacks threw stones at a police vehicle. They were dispersed by way of tear smoke. In 16 other unrest incidents in the same area the security forces had to use tear smoke. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Hillcrest (Durban)

"Three black men as well as a youth were arrested when a group of approximately 150 blacks gathered illegally and refused to disperse at a request of the police. Tear smoke was used to disperse them. No injuries were reported.

"Inanda (Durban)

"Five black men were injured when a black man threw a petrol bomb at a bus. No arrests were reported.

"Chesterville (Durban)

"A black man was wounded in his leg when an unidentifiedperson fired a shot at him. No arrests were reported.

"Ezakeni (Ladysmith)

"A white man was slightly injured when a group of about fifty blacks threw stones at his vehicle. No arrests were reported. A black man was arrested and a member of the police slightly injured when a group of approximately 150 blacks threw stones at members of the police.

"In four separate incidents groups of blacks ransacked shops and set them alight. Damage amounted to about R162,000. No injuries or arrests were reported. A black man was arrested when a group of about twenty threw stones at a shop. Birdshot was used to disperse the group. Another black man was arrested when a group threw petrol bombs at a shop. No injuries were reported.

"In two other incidents in the same area the police had to use tear smoke. No injuries or arrests we reported.

"Natal

"Imbali (Pietermatzburg)

A black woman and a black man was slightly injured when a bus was stoned by a group of about twenty blacks. No arrests were reported.

"Nzuse (Greytown)

"Two black men were arrested while trying to intimidate pupils. No injuries were reported.

"Edendale (KwaZulu)

"Two black men were arrested after they participated in stoning a private vehicle. No injuries were reported. A SAP member was slightly injured when a group of about 30 blacks stoned a police vehicle. Tearsmoke and birdshot were used to disperse the group. No arrests were reported. In 13 unrest incidents in the same area, police had to use tearsmoke or birdshot. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Isolated unrest incidents occurred in several other police districts. These comprised stonings, arson, erection of barricades, intimidation and petrol bomb attacks. Police action occurred in some cases but no injuries or arrests were reported."

7 May Unrest Report

MB080853 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0846 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Pretoria May 8 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 May 7:

"A black man was injured when a group of about 300 black radicals stones a bus in Edendale (Pietermaritzburg) yesterday. In another similar incident, also in Edendale, two black women sustained slight injuries. No arrests were made and damage was indicated as minimal.

"A woman police constable sustained slight burns when her home was petrol bombed by unidentified persons in Kwamashu (Durban) yesterday. Extensive damage was caused to the house. No arrests were reported.

"About 300 chanting students gathered illegally on the campus of the University of Natal (Durban) yesterday. Police arrived and requested the group to disperse. The group refused and the police used batons and sjamboks [whips] to disperse the group. Nineteen students were arrested. No injuries were reported.

"Two railway coaches, one at New Canada Station and one between Savelo and Midway Stations (Soweto), were set alight by unidentified persons yesterday. Combined damages were estimated at about R230,000. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"A coloured youth was arrested in Athlone (Wynberg) yesterday after he and a group of others erected a barricade by placing tyres in a public road. No injuries were reported.

"Other unrest related incidents reported during the above mentioned period comprised isolated stonings, illegal gatherings, arson and petrol bomb attacks. No injuries or arrests were reported. Damage was indicated as minimal."